

JUNE



Heartland Pride 2015



HEARTLAND PRIDE JUNE 25

As we approach another Heartland Pride event, I remain grateful to be part of a community that welcomes LGBTQ members and supports me personally in my passion to reach out to that community every year. Many assume that my interest is fueled by my love of my precious youngest daughter, Hannah, who is a lesbian, but they are wrong. My daughter came out in middle school to welcoming, supportive parents, grandparents, siblings and friends. Her experience has, mostly, been very much like that. She does not need me to do this. In many ways, she feels she supports my effort! I do this because of other young people who cannot find love, acceptance or support anywhere. Family and friends turn away and they are told than even a loving God is not available to them. We need to do what we can to let them know that this is not true. They can find a place to be received warmly into a loving

family; the family that is Countryside Community Church.

Each year, Countryside volunteers hand out flyers, buttons and stickers from our booth. We are also given a unique opportunity to talk with attendees about our church, what we believe and what we have to offer. Every year, I have had the privilege to listen to those who are struggling. Why Heartland Pride? I asked a friend, some time ago, why she felt Pride was important and she said, "For Lelah, for Harvey Milk, for the queens on the streets of New York. To be heard. To be known and live without of fear. To be free." I do this for my friends, and those who I hope will become my friends, who want to be heard, to be known, to be free and to live without fear.

—Diane Scott, Countryside member and Pride Volunteer Coordinator.

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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

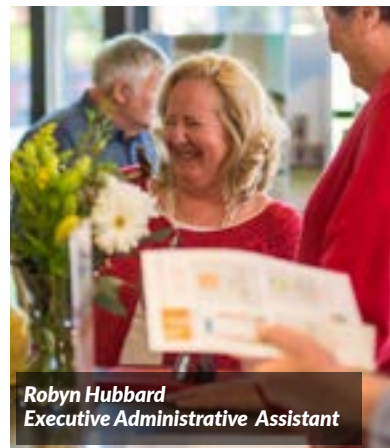
We are an inclusive, open and affirming family of faith, welcoming all to God's table of love and acceptance. We are diverse, yet united by Christ's example. We care for one another, support one another and challenge one another to become all that God creates us to be. We work together to nurture our 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 - childcare (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 towards 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, donuts 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 List - The Box, Basket and List, 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 List is the way we share of our time and talent with one another and is printed in the Order of Worship.
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 or call 402-391-0350.

NEW EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Robyn Hubbard, our new Executive Administrative Assistant, comes to us from a retail, legal and nonprofit background. Born and raised in Omaha, she and husband David practiced law before going into the family business, Ginn Oil Company and goodies Mini Marts, where they worked together for over 20 years until the company was sold. Robyn then opened a yarn shop at Countryside Village called String of Purls which she operated for almost eight years until starting at the Central High School Foundation. As a new member of the congregation (August, 2015), "I am thrilled to be part of such a great staff and congregation as we all move forward on the relocation with the Tri-Faith Initiative." Robyn has been involved as a volunteer with the Omaha Public Library, Omaha Public Schools, Joslyn Castle and Child Saving Institute.



Robyn Hubbard
Executive Administrative Assistant

SPOTLIGHT

Countryside's Stephen Ministry Program

Congratulations to our nine new Stephen Ministers at Countryside! We congratulate and welcome Jerry Brown, Doug Dushan, Carlos Figueroa, Jane Frey, Margaret Gilmore, Betsy Lay, Christy Palmer, Carol Rogers and Mary Watke as they begin serving our faith community. Thank you again to their dedicated leaders, Donna Knutson and Molly Anderson! Molly hosted a Stephen Ministry social at her home on May 16 to help us all get to know those who are newly trained. If you or anyone you know would benefit from a little extra support which is confidential and arranged at your convenience, contact Jan Brown, Pastoral Care Coordinator.



Our New Stephen Ministers

Two upcoming Stephen Ministry Dates:

Tuesday, June 7, 6:00 PM - the last Peer Support meeting before our summer break.

Saturday, August 23, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM - Stephen Ministry Retreat (for all those who have been trained recently or in the past).

IN LOVING MEMORY

A.H. "Buzz" Burling passed away on May 9. He's survived by his wife Dee, daughter Amy Baker, son Dave Burling and two grandchildren. The graveside service was held recently at Pleasant Hill Cemetery, Dunlap, Iowa. We offer our prayerful support to the Burling family.

FAME

The Friday Art and Music Experience (FAME) members have broadened their horizons and are now graffiti artists! Kelly Keller came up with the idea of having FAME members painting a beautiful floral mural which is now on display in the church. Please take a minute to view our newest piece of art.

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

REFUGEE FAMILIES SETTLING IN OMAHA

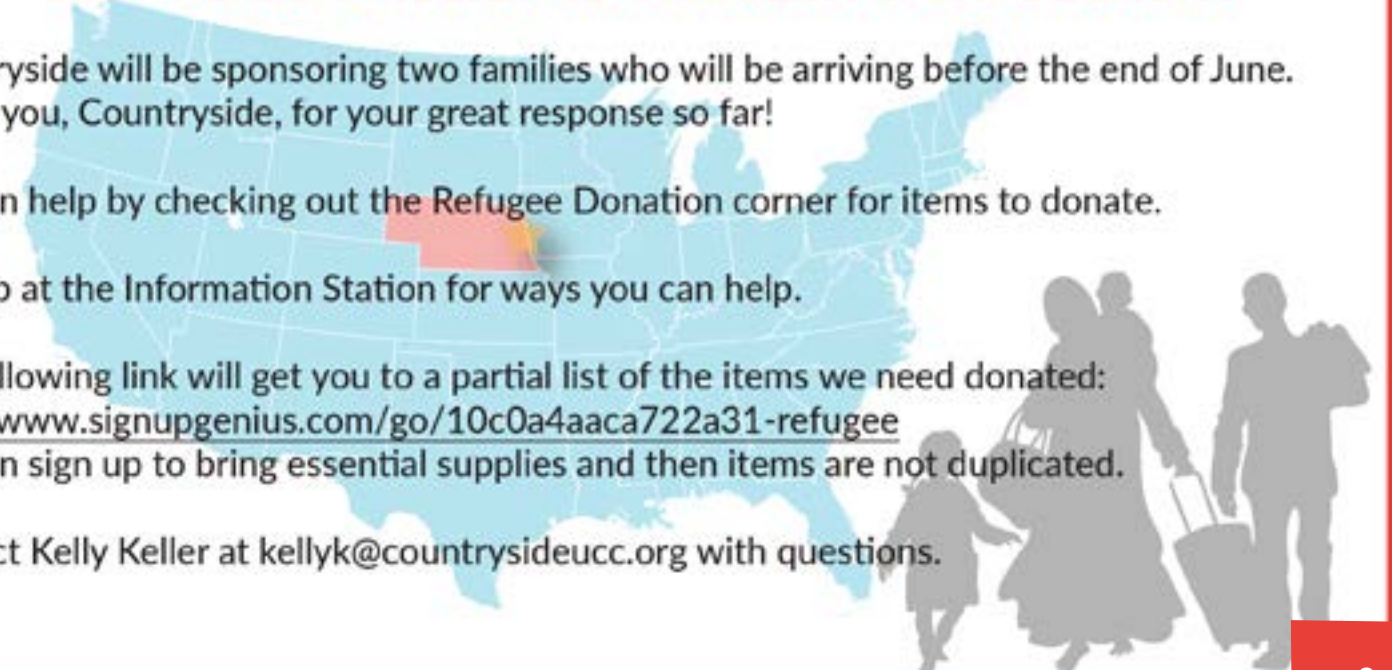
Countryside will be sponsoring two families who will be arriving before the end of June. Thank you, Countryside, for your great response so far!

You can help by checking out the Refugee Donation corner for items to donate.

Sign up at the Information Station for ways you can help.

The following link will get you to a partial list of the items we need donated:
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0a4aaca722a31-refugee>
 You can sign up to bring essential supplies and then items are not duplicated.

Contact Kelly Keller at kellyk@countrysideucc.org with questions.





UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, June 26, 2 to 4 PM St. Pius X Catholic Church - 6905 Blondo St. Sacred Conversations for Racial Justice: Summer Accountability Session

The Accountability Sessions are an outgrowth of the CFS cosponsored January conference Listen for a Change: Sacred Conversations for Racial Justice. Our intention is to develop the beloved community that helps each other identify, confront and heal the racialized way of life which we find within ourselves, institutions and our society.



Panelists for Summer Accountability Session

Event is free - Registration is required. The registration link is available under Center for Faith Studies of the Countryside website. Click on Racial Justice or you can call (402) 391.0350 or email Kelly at kellyk@countysideuucc.org.

FALL FAITH STUDIES LECTURE SERIES

The Fall Center for Faith Studies Lecture Series has been announced. Get them on your calendars now!

August 4 - Roger Gabriel, Master Educator Chopra Center for Wellness. The Law of Dharma - Fulfilling Life's Potential.

August 25 - Melvin Bray - The Stories in Which We Find Ourselves. Reframing our narratives to release the -isms from our world.

September 15 - Precious Davis - Coming Home: Creating Brave Space for Inclusion.

October 6- Phyllis & Orlando Rodriguez -In Our Son's Name. Fifteen years after 9/11 this couple reached out to the mother of one of the 9/11 attackers after losing their son in the Trade tower collapse.

November 10 - Gary Ferguson - The Carry Home: Lessons from America's Wilderness.



May 12 - Syrian Refugee Crisis (CFS) Presentation

For more information see www.centerforfaithstudies.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What is Converging Paths?

The Converging Paths Ministry strives to strengthen the church community - both Countryside and the larger Church, by supporting faith formation and leadership formation through small groups (Journey Groups). The Converging Paths Ministry is developing small group resources based on the solid theological foundation of The Phoenix Affirmations.

Sacred Journeys Group Looking for Countryside Members!

Would you like to form relationships with Christians from other denominations and congregations? There is an inter-denominational Journey Group that meets here at Countryside. They have members from several local churches and are hoping that a few people from Countryside will join them.

SMALL GROUP RESOURCES

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.

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.

A Place to Call Home

Several Journey Groups are following the sermon series, A Place To Call Home, discovering what it means to be truly at home in this world by exploring the interplay between physical and spiritual spaces in the Bible.

Darkwood Brew

New Journey Groups are forming that watch and discuss Darkwood Brew videos. Join in and dig into some provocative theological discussions while developing lasting relationships.

Gifts of the Dark Wood

This Journey Group explores Dr. Elnes latest book, Gifts of the Dark Wood. Learn more about how we meet God in the depth of our struggles.

QUESTIONS?

For more information about Journey Groups contact Chris Alexander.

Office Phone: (402) 391-0350 ext. 130 Email: chrisa@countysideuucc.org

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

Mondays at 7:00 PM in the Commons. Readings and videos on racialized America. Sign up through CFS office. Starting June 13: The Cross and the Lynching Tree by James Cone.

Adult Ed Brown Bag Lunch

Mondays at 12:15 PM in the Chapel, August - May. Bring your lunch and discuss Great Courses.

Books Bible and Beyond

Wednesdays at noon in the Chapel. Resumes in September.

Adult Ed Forum

Sundays at 10:10 AM in the Moderator's Room. Come whenever you can! Current series: The Other Side of History: Daily Life in the Ancient World. Professor Robert Garland. (Great Courses)

QUESTIONS?

For more information about Center for Faith Studies contact Kelly Keller.

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

Email: kellyk@countysideuucc.org

Website: www.centerforfaithstudies.org

Face book: https://www.face book.com/Center-

for-Faith-Studies-120882397136

Advertisement for VBS (Vacation Bible School) titled 'In the beginning...'. It features silhouettes of children playing and the text 'VBS In the beginning... Games & Crafts July 11 - 15 Science & Scripture'. It encourages children to come have fun and explore scripture through storytelling, crafts and science experiments. K - 4th grade...sign up today! see page 7 for details

Advertisement for 'SACRED CONVERSATIONS for RACIAL JUSTICE Summer Accountability Session'. It features a row of panelist photos and the text 'Sunday, June 26, 2 - 4 PM St. Pius Catholic Church - 6905 Blondo St. see page 4 for details Free and open to the public Register at www.centerforfaithstudies.org or email Kelly at kellyk@countysideuucc.org

Advertisement for 'CORE 56'. It features the text 'CORE 56 Core 56 gatherings bring us together to discuss how to activate our faith and beliefs in our lives. Using scripture, movies, music, and creative writing to explore the sacred in even the most quotidian aspects of life. This group is open to all students who have just completed 4th grade through those who have just finished 6th grade. see page 7 for details



COYO SR HIGH

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Follow Faith Singers Tour, June 1-8

Faith Singers will be on tour June 1-8 in the cities of Springfield, MO, Memphis, TN, Nashville, TN, Columbus, OH, and Chicago, IL. Pictures and comments will be uploaded almost daily to the Faith Singers Facebook page. You can follow them at <https://www.facebook.com/ccfaithsingers/> You do not need to have a Facebook account to follow them.

Follow COYO mission trip to the Boundary

COYO Sr High will be going into the woods of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness June 20-27. While there is no cell coverage in the area, pictures and messages will be uploaded before they enter the area and after they exit. Remember no news is good news. You can follow the trip on Facebook at <http://Facebook.com/coyosrhigh> You do not need a Facebook account to follow this trip.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Canoeing Practice Run - June 12, Noon - 5:00 PM

COYO Sr High will leave from church at 12:30 PM after a quick lunch in Memorial Hall. This is a practice run for Boundary Waters, but anyone can come. Bring a bathing suit and towel as you canoe the Elkhorn River. Cost is \$10.

COYO Sr High Leaves for Boundary Waters - Monday, June 20 at 7:00AM

Be ready to leave at 7:00 AM. You can bring what you need in a suitcase or bag and then transfer your stuff that you will bring into the woods into a backpack at the outfitters. You can bring your phones for pictures, but know that you will not have service in the woods and the vehicles will be unattended while you're gone.

COYO JR HIGH

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you for a great year!

COYO Jr High had a great year this year! Confirmation class was inspiring, which is obvious when the Statements of Faith are read. COYO Jr High youth group on Sunday afternoons was a blast and the service projects were eye-opening. There will be a few events in the summer, and COYO Jr High will resume at the end of August.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Hiking in Colorado - July 10-15

Meet at church at 7:00 AM, ready for an 11-hour drive to the Lost Creek Wilderness in Pike National Forest. Camp at Lost Park Campground before starting on a four-day hike. You can follow the trip on Facebook at <http://Facebook.com/coyojrhigh> and you can also sign up to receive an email from the SPOT locator which will send you coordinates of where the group is.



Graduating Seniors

Congratulations to our graduating seniors:

- from left to right:
- Harper Newell
- Natalie Day
- Claire Nelson
- Cooper Castan
- Ian Barchus
- Amory Carnazzo
- Not pictured:
- Davis Lee

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING FOR JUNE WORSHIP SERVICES

June 5 - Family Worship

Children remain in the sanctuary with their families.

June 12 - Children's Church

Children begin in the Sanctuary until the procession to the Chapel.

June 19 - Family Worship

Children remain in the sanctuary with their families.

June 26 - Children's Church

Children begin in the Sanctuary until the procession to the Chapel.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Core 56 will meet just twice in June, on the 15th and the 29th. We meet from 6:30 PM until 7:30PM on both those dates in the Youth Room downstairs. This month, we are watching *Rise of the Guardians* and contemplating ways to find our "center", our gift, our calling. Our meeting time will remain the same and we will watch the movie over about three weeks.

In the Beginning..., our Vacation Bible School 2016 will be held July 11-15! During VBS, our students spend time exploring the stories of Creation through storytelling and then participating in crafts and science experiments that invite our students to consider their connection and interactions with God's creation in their daily lives. Our leaders encourage our students to not only ask questions but also seek answers from leaders, other students, and their own experiences. The VBS team incorporates music, physical activity, snacks, crafts, experiments, and reflection to create a community building environment for kids to share and develop their faith and relationship with God.

Our day begins at 9:00 AM in Memorial Hall as we greet each other, gather in our groups, and prepare for our day with song and stories. We conclude our day at noon and students can be collected in Memorial Hall. Registration is now open. Visit our website to get your pre-k through 4th grade student signed up!



Sharing Bible Stories at VBS



Heidi Neumann leading a science experiment at VBS



Shaving Cream Art at VBS

Nursery Ministry is looking for dedicated church members to keep this important ministry going! While children are ALWAYS WELCOME in our community worship, our volunteers help to provide care in a safe environment as an alternative.

QUESTIONS?

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

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

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. In 2016, it will take place July 11-15.

Wednesday Night Programming - Holy Moly

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

Wednesday Night Programming - Core 56

On Wednesday nights, our 5th and 6th grade group delves into scripture study of Jesus' 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 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 5 years-old through 6th grade.

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



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming in June - 9:00 AM Service

June 5- Piano music of Brahms and vocal music of Franck, featuring Bruce and France Blanchard.

June 12 - The Music of Felix Mendelssohn: Songs Without Words and selections from Symphony no.2 "Lobegesang".

June 19 - Piano and Vocal works of Aaron Copland.

June 26 - Piano and vocal music of Gabrielle Faure, featuring Brenda Stursma.

Welcome Our New Director of Music and Arts Ministries

At last! It is with great pleasure that the search committee announces Dr. Amy Luckenbill has accepted our offer to become our Director of Music and Arts Ministries. Among her responsibilities will be the coordination of all choirs, directing the Faith Singers, Spirit of Grace, and Chancel choirs, participating in the weekly worship team meetings and assisting with worship arts.

Amy received her Bachelor of Arts from Briar Cliff College, and her Master of Music in Choral Conducting and Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Kansas. She has taught in high school and middle schools as well as teaching private piano and voice lessons. Amy, her husband Don, and their sons Dallas, 10 and Andrew, 8, are moving to Omaha from Olathe, Kansas where Amy is currently serving as the Director of Music at Overland Park Christian Church.

The search committee would like to thank Bruce Blanchard for volunteering his time serving as our Interim Director of Music. We would also like to thank Vicky Palmisano who has served as the interim Spirit of Grace director, Alex Ritter who has coordinated guest musicians and assisted with special music, and Tyler Gruttemeyer who has served as interim director of the Faith Singers including taking them on tour this June.

A personal note of thanks to Tom Campbell, Alex Ritter, Brenda Stursma, David Worth and Zach Bjornsen who served as members of the search committee as well as Bruce Blanchard, Chris Alexander and Eric Elnes who were ex officio members. These individuals spent the past nine months tirelessly crafting the job description, posting it on numerous websites, reading countless resumes, viewing multiple videos and interviewing those candidates who the committee believed possessed the qualities needed to be our new director.

The search committee along with the members of the music department are eagerly awaiting the arrival of Dr. Amy Luckenbill who will continue the rich tradition of quality music at Countryside Community Church.

Pam Kregg

Chair, Director of Music and Arts Ministries Search Committee



Dr. Amy Luckenbill
Director of Music & Arts Ministries

Amy, Andrew, Dallas and Don

Countryside church has one of the most celebrated music ministries in Omaha. We have many excellent opportunities for expressing our faith through music. Our music rooms are bustling with activity on weekdays and Sundays as our singers prepare for worship services. Each group participates at least monthly in worship services.

Note: All choirs are now on summer recess and will resume in late August.

Cherub Choir

The Cherub Choir is for children in Kindergarten through second grade. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings 5:15-6:00 PM. This group sings monthly in worship.

Pilgrim Choir

Pilgrim Choir is for children in the third through sixth grades. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings 5:15-6:00 PM. This group sings monthly in worship.

Covenant Choir

Covenant Choir is for middle school youth in grades 7 and 8. They rehearse on Wednesday evenings from 6:15-7:00 PM before Confirmation in the Junior Choir Room. This group sings monthly in worship.

Faith Singers

Faith Singers is a choir for grades 9-12 and regularly rehearses each Sunday from 4:45-6:00 PM. This choir sings most weeks during the school year for one of our worship services.

Chancel Choir

Chancel Choir is a "traditional" church choir for post-high school youth and adults. This choir sings each week for one of the worship services. Regular rehearsals are on Wednesdays from 6:25-7:55 PM.

Spirit of Grace

Spirit of Grace is a group of adults of all ages that explores contemporary church music. This group rehearses on Wednesdays from 8:05-9:05 p.m. Spirit of Grace generally sings once or twice each month, alternating between the first and second services.

QUESTIONS?

For more information about Music Ministries contact Bruce Blanchard or Vicky Palmisano

Bruce Blanchard
Email: bblanchardh@gmail.com

Vicky Palmisano
Email: vickyp@countrysideucc.org

Alex Ritter - Organist

Tyler Gruttemeyer - Interim Faith Singer Director

Dawn Donner - Substitute Cherub Choir Director

THE BOX FOR MAY AND JUNE

We are collecting all kinds of household items to help make a home (or two) for refugee families coming to us through a program with Lutheran Family Services. The list of items needed for a typical life in Omaha is getting smaller, but there are still many items that could make a HUGE difference in their everyday experience.

Please take a moment to review the current lists and decide if any of the remaining items happen to be something that you can provide.

You can learn more and see the list on Sign Up Genius:

<http://countrysideucc.org/caring-together/refugee-support/>

APRIL BOX RESULTS

During April, items were collected for OneWorld Baby Boutique. We donated a total of 20 onsies, 6 sleepers, 8 burp cloths, 2 bibs, 6 stocking hats, 8 pairs of socks, 10 pkgs of diapers, 5 pkgs of wipes, 2 cans of formula and a case of applesauce. These items will be given to moms as part of a program that encourages prenatal care. Thank you so much to all who contributed!

SPECIAL REQUEST

If you know of an organization promoting inclusiveness that should be considered for Special Offerings, Small Service Group Grants(SSG), or that we could help through The Box, we want to hear about your recommendations as soon as possible...

QUESTIONS?

If you would like more information regarding Countryside Christian Outreach, email christianoutreach@countrysideucc.org. To find out about how you can volunteer at the food pantry, contact communitycupboard@countrysideucc.org.

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 8:00-11:30AM. 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.

Countryside members who volunteer with local groups/ events may apply for small grants (<\$500) to cover materials and supplies. Contact us or find the SSG request forms on the church website.



JUNE UPDATE

BREAKING NEW GROUND: SPIRITUALLY & PHYSICALLY

We have broken the million dollar mark in pledging from our church family! Thank you to all who have responded so generously.

If you have not returned your pledge card, please, go to your desk and to your "to do" list and find that Relocation Campaign mailing that you have been thinking and praying about. Make your pledge today! How important it will be if we can say that we have a 100% response to our campaign. We are confident that such a response may be rewarded with gifts from outside our church family. A calling campaign has been slated for the last two weeks of June to followup on those people who have not yet responded.

Please help our church take this bold spirit-led step into a promising future. The generations that follow us will bloom in our new garden!

TWO DAYS OF WORKSHOPS

On May 12, the Relocation Committees and Building Sub-Committee Chairmen met with our architectural design team, Alley Poyner Macchietto and HGA, to discuss the final Schematic Design phase of our building.

A Sustainability Update was the second component of the Workshop agenda. Because Countryside aspires to build with great sensitivity for our environment, our sustainability decisions require careful study and decision making. Every information session adds valuable knowledge to our committees.

On May 13, the Tri-Faith Board, made up of representatives of the three faith communities, met with the architectural firm, HGA, to launch an updated Master Plan for the Tri-Faith Campus. A survey was distributed some days before the workshop to assist HGA in getting to know our community and tap into our dreams for the campus. The next meeting is scheduled for June 7.



Relocation & Building Sub-Committees Workshop

To stay informed of what is happening with the relocation efforts, look for the Relocation icon in Countryside's communications: the display area outside the church office, weekly C10 emails, monthly newsletter, and the Countryside website www.countrysideucc.org.

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 crcc@countrysideucc.org.



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: marybeth@countrysideucc.org

SOCIAL GROUP UPDATES

Transforming The Heartland-Pride Festival

Once again, Countryside Community Church will be showing our support for the LGBT community by our presence at Heartland Pride. The festival will be held on June 25 at Stinson Park in Aksarben Village (67th and Center). As in previous years, we will be handing out stickers with a link to our open and affirming message. In addition, we will be wearing, and distributing, buttons in support of our transgender brothers and sisters. In June, we will be looking for volunteers to help at the booth. Join us!! Direct any questions to Diane Scott at Twang56@aol.com or 402-707-1556.

UPCOMING IN JUNE

Chair Yoga

Classes resume on Tuesday afternoon, June 7, in the Foyer at Countryside Church from 2-3 PM. For additional information contact Donna Miesbach at 402-330-2747 or at dmiesbach@cox.net.

Financial Peace University classes

Classes will be held at Countryside Church on Thursday evenings, June 2 - August 11, 6:30 PM in the Chapel. Facilitator Mike Potter has generously volunteered his time, once again, to help folks get their financial life back in control. Sign ups are available at the Information Station.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Tri-Faith Picnic

Countryside has the pleasure of hosting the Tri-Faith Picnic again this year. This outstanding, family-focused fellowship event will be held on Sunday, August 14, 12:30-2:30 PM at Countryside Church. There will be activities for children of ALL AGES and stages of life. We are currently looking for folks who would like to volunteer in helping put on this event. Many hands are needed. There are a variety of areas in which you may serve. Contact Mary Beth for additional information. Thank you in advance for your volunteer effort.

THANK YOU

Wednesday Night Suppers

Christy Palmer has volunteered her time and expertise to lead the Wednesday Night Suppers for us beginning in September of 2016. Throughout the summer, as Christy puts her schedule together for the Fall, she will be contacting those of you who provided meals for our church family on Wednesday evenings. We are always looking for friends to volunteer their time and share their family favorite meals with around 60 folks roughly two times/program year (August - April). If you would be interested, stop by the Information Station, sign up and learn more about this wonderful ministry.

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 Family Life Office. Contact Mary Beth Link at marybeth@countrysideucc.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 marybeth@countrysideucc.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 beginning in August. Contact Mary Beth at marybeth@countrysideucc.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 marybeth@countrysideucc.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@countrysideucc.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.

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@countrysideucc.org.

Countryside's Angels Bicycling

This new group is open to anyone (all ages) interested in bicycling. They meet periodically when the weather is calling them to ride! Contact Mark Stursma at mstursma@yahoo.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 1st Monday of the month, 5:30 PM in the Youth Room. Contact Ann Naylor at annnaylor@cox.net.

LGBTQ 101

LGBTQ 101 is a monthly class held on the 2nd Thursday of each month and is facilitated by PFLAG members. The class covers LGBTQ issues and increases awareness of gender identity and expression. Contact Mary Beth at marybeth@countrysideucc.org.

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 Monday 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 - 10 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 3rd Thursday after the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Contact Jennifer Hamann, Moderator, at moderator@countrysideucc.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 chair Sarah Miller at swaetzig14@hotmail.com

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 Bill Sellgren at sellgren3@cox.net

Board of Art & Music (BAM)

This board provides sincere, artful and spiritual experiences for the congregation. Meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, 6:30 PM. Contact board chair Brenda Stursma at brennda.stursma@gmail.com

Board of Life Ministries (BOLM)

This board oversees all social activities, volunteer coordination and family based educational classes held at Countryside. Contact board chair Mary Johnston at zjeesgram@aol.com

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 7PM. Contact board chair Mike Murphy at mike@nelsonmurphyinvest.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 Tim Kerrigan, at tgerrigan@investorsomaha.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 omahascat@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 7PM. Contact board chair, Bonnie Buckland at bonniebuckland@outlook.com.

Nominating Committee

This committee is composed of 9 - 12 church members including past chairs of the boards and moderator. They meet weekly from September through November. The mission of the Nominating Committee is to recruit church members to serve on the eight leadership boards at Countryside Church, the vice moderator-elect, and the church delegates who attend Nebraska's Annual Conference of the United Church of Christ. Contact board co-chairs France Blanchard at fblanchardh@gmail.com or Pam Kregg at pamgg@cox.net



VOLUNTEER CORNER

THE LIST

The List is the way we share of our time and talent with one another. Each week we lift up an opportunity to volunteer within a specific ministry at Countryside. Check the Order of Worship each Sunday or the weekly email to learn what is the List for each week.

Wednesday Night Supper Teams for the 2016-17

Only four additional teams are needed to complete our teams for next falls Wednesday Night alive suppers! Prayerfully consider giving of your time and culinary talent, or your "ordering out" expertise! Your time commitment would be only once every six weeks. If you would like more information, contact Mary Beth at marybeth@countrysideucc.org or stop by the Information Station.

Mobile Meals

We are currently looking for 2-3 more volunteers for two hours a month who would be willing to give of their time so that others may be fed. The schedule through May of 2017 is now being created. If interested stop by the Information Station.

Pride Fest Volunteers

Volunteers are needed to work the Countryside table at the 2016 Pride Fest, Saturday, June 25, at Stinson Park. Diane Scott is heading up Countryside's presence again this year. She will be in the Foyer taking sign-ups beginning June 12. Mark your calendars now!

The Community Cupboard Food Pantry

Volunteers are needed for the Pantry on June 4. Any and all age groups are welcome. Ability to lift, bend and stand on your feet for extended periods of time are appreciated. If interested contact Mary Beth Link at marybeth@countrysideucc.org. or Andi Lawlor at communitycupboard@countrysideucc.org

Kitchen

Looking for 2-3 dedicated volunteers who would take responsibility for Countryside's kitchens on a weekly basis. This would involve putting dishes away, wiping counters, emptying the dishwasher and keeping an inventory of necessary supplies. If interested, then stop by the Information Station on Sunday morning.

Dish Disciples

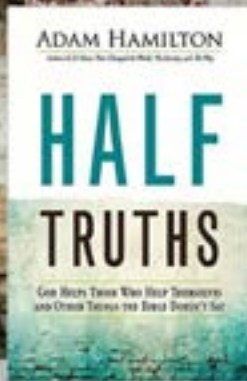
Volunteers are needed to help with washing mugs after the 11AM worship service. If interested, contact Mary Beth at marybeth@countrysideucc.org.

Volunteer Receptionists

We are currently seeking 6 to 10 individuals who would help out in the front office receptionist's desk during the week. You can pick your time frame. Hours are 8:30-11:30 AM or 12:00 to 3:00 PM, Monday through Friday. For more information, contact either Dan Loven or Mary Beth Link at 402-391-0350.

Worship series June 12 thru July 10

HALF TRUTHS



**Half Truths:
Beyond Cliché Theology**

This series is based on Adam Hamilton's book entitled "Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other Things the Bible Doesn't Say." These "Half-Truths are things we say and hear all the time. They sound good at the time, and even have a hint of truth within them, but when we stop to think about what it is we are saying, we find that the effect may actually be hurting others, rather than helping them. This series explores these phrases, together with the wisdom of what we DO find in the bible, seeking "whole truths" beyond a cliché theology.



**August 5th & 6th
at Countryside
DROP OFF DATES**

May 21, June 18, July 16

Bring items you want to donate to Millard Lumber (12900 I St).

This year we are also incorporating pick-ups into the drop-offs. If you need items picked up that you are donating to the garage sale, we will be collecting only on drop-off dates, not during the garage sale set-up. You are free to drop items off at church starting July 30. Contact Will at willh@countrysideucc.org with garage sale questions.

No exercise equipment or CRT TV's



**COUNTRYSIDE
RELOCATION CAMPAIGN**

Invest in the future of Countryside and our Mission.

PLEDGE NOW

We have reached the million dollar mark in pledges from our church family!

Our goal is 100% participation. If you have not pledged yet, please do so. We want to hear from you!

Thank you to all who have responded so generously.

www.countrysideucc.org/relocation

see relocation update on page 9

Home Concert
June 8 at 7 PM
in the Sanctuary

**FAITH
SINGERS**

★ Ian Barchus	★ Sammi Dunn
★ Isaac Bonner	★ Matthew Farho
★ Emma Boyd	★ Claire Kuyper
★ Cooper Castan	★ Davis Lee
★ Ryan Clippinger	★ Kaylee Parmentier
★ Katie Clippinger	★ Katrina Stanek
★ Emma Creamer	★ Luke Stursma
★ Danielle Dircks	★ Ashley Tyler

★

David Day
Mary Dircks
Lori Fehr
Tyler Gruttemeyer
Rebecca Morello