

AUGUST



VBS 2018



Faith Singers Tour



Garage Sale



Will's Graduation party



COYO Mission Trip



COYO Mission Trip

SUMMER HAPPENINGS AT COUNTRYSIDE

TRI-FAITH PICNIC

Temple Israel will host the Annual Tri-Faith Picnic on Sunday, August 12, from 12:30-3:00 PM at their building at 13111 Sterling Ridge Drive.

There will be games and activities for all ages as well as plenty of food and beverages. There will be face painting, balloon artists, a bounce house and games for everyone to enjoy. This is a wonderful opportunity to spend time with our new neighbors and get to know each other better. As modesty is an important part of the Muslim faith, we ask that attendees do not wear short skirts/shorts, tank tops/muscle shirts or see-through/revealing clothing.

Grilled Halal beef burgers, Kosher hot dogs, and cold drinks and water will be provided. We are asking each family to bring a potluck dish to share with everyone (plan a dish to serve 20 people). Keeping Jewish and Muslim food practices in mind, we ask that you please stay away from pork (not even bacon in the salads, please!), gelatin or shellfish. If you do use any of these, please list the ingredients of your recipe on your dish so our volunteers can make signs for our guests.

As we gather with our neighbors, perhaps ask them about their dietary customs and how they follow them in their faith traditions. It will be a great way to learn from one another, and show our neighbors that they are matters to us.

Please bring peanut butter to donate to the Countryside Community Cupboard Food Pantry.



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
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Brian Palmer
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Audio/Visual

Ben Semisch
Videographer
bens@countysideucc.org

Minister of Spiritual Direction

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

TOUCHPOINT - COUNTRYSIDE'S NEW DATABASE

Countryside is excited to introduce My Data as part of the new Touchpoint database adoption. My Data is a user friendly technology that allows you stay connected and informed with what's happening at church. With a My Data account, you can have secure access to you and your family's information. In the next couple months, you will be able to look at your church involvement, register for events online and more from a computer or tablet. In addition to the online access, we will soon offer a mobile app as well as SMS/text communication options!

This new technology allows the church to communicate with you in a personal, relevant and timely manner and helps us to effectively manage the growth of the congregation.

Get access to your My Data account today:

- Check your email for an email inviting you to register for MyData and following the link.

OR

- Visit: <https://countysideucc.tpsdb.com>
- Enter: your email address (provide the one you currently use for Countryside communications)
- Select: Request Password
- Check: An email will be sent with a link to create a password

Once you have access, take a moment to review your account and ensure we have the most current information for you.

- If you need any assistance with registration or have any questions, please contact Courtney Holiday at courtneyh@countysideucc.org





STEPHEN MINISTRY UPDATES AND GRATITUDE

Saturday, August. 25, 9 AM -2 PM – “Holy, Wholly Listening” is the theme for our Fall Stephen Ministry workshop, and we’ve arranged for a special speaker to help facilitate. All new and recently active Stephen Ministers are encouraged to attend; please let Jan know of your plans by August 16. We’ll meet in Countryside’s Chapel and lunch will be included. There is no charge to attend.

Tuesday, September 11, 6 PM – Our first fall Peer Support meeting will be held in the Chapel from 6-8 PM. Plan to attend if you’re a new Stephen Minister or were active within the past year. **If you’re on the Stephen Ministry Leadership Team, please come to Jan’s office before that, at 5 PM.**

BIRTHS

Dr. John and Mary Windle’s first grandchild, **Luke Robert**, was born on June 23, 2018, to Daniel and Emily Windle.

Joyce Davis’s granddaughter **Quinn Katherine Landholm** was born July 6, 2018, to Brooke Studt and Craig Landholm and big brother Grant.

MARRIAGE

Margaret Hayford and **Tim Ekberg** were married at Countryside on July 28, 2018, with Rev. Dr. Chris Alexander officiating.

IN MEMORIAM

Molly (Mitch) Anderson’s brother **Rick Riley** died in Iowa on May 29, and his services were held in Des Moines on May 31.

Longtime member **Elmer (Carol) Burhenne** passed away June 12, and his funeral was at Westlawn-Hillcrest on June 16, with Rev. Dr. Eric Elnes officiating.

Marianne (Tom) Campbell’s father **David Adams** died on June 13, and his funeral was held on June 18 in Omaha.

Mary (Ray) Meints’s mother **Evelyn Frasier** died on June 21, and her funeral was held at Elkhorn Hills Methodist Church.

Lynette Campbell’s mother **Marjorie Dixon** passed away on July 1, and her life was celebrated at Heafey Hoffman Dworak and Cutler Funeral Home.

FALL PASTORAL CARE WORKSHOP - “TURNING POINTS”

Stress: Danger or Opportunity? No matter your age or situation in life, this topic may really resonate. The Pastoral Care Board’s annual fall workshop will be Saturday, September 22, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM. Stress motivates us to be on top of our games, but yet at some point it can also be a harmful health risk. How do we know when there’s too much stress, and how can we each cope? Join us to uncover some answers. Bring your teenagers, your partner, your parents, your friends. Morning refreshments will be served, there is no charge, and this is open to the wider community.

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

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR THE MOVE TO TRI-FAITH CAMPUS

The decision by Countryside Community Church to become the Christian partner of the Tri-Faith Initiative created a flurry of hard work, anticipation and excitement. As the long awaited move becomes reality, the ministers, staff leaders and moderators have gathered to determine strategic priorities for Countryside over the next two years. The two-year time frame was selected to prepare for the transition from pre-move to post-move. The following are the questions developed as strategic priorities:

1. How are we engaging the congregation and staff to meet our Church mission?
2. How are we improving our financial and membership sustainability?
3. How are we maximizing the Tri-Faith opportunity?

These priorities have been presented to and approved by the church council. In addition, all board chairs have been encouraged to use these priorities for future planning. Countryside staff has also been encouraged to utilize these new strategic priorities in future program planning and other activities. With the commitment of staff and board leadership to these priorities, our greatest collective impact can be achieved.

These priorities will provide more focus on the decisions made on behalf of Countryside Community Church. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Moderator Kris Hess at moderator@countrysideucc.org. Many thanks to Mike Hornacek, who graciously agreed to facilitate this strategic priority process.



CENTER FOR FAITH STUDIES



CFS UPCOMING EVENTS

2018/2019 Lecture Series; Seeds of Acceptance, Conversations in Diversity

Center for Faith Studies is excited to introduce the 2018/2019 Lecture Series; Seeds of Acceptance, Conversations in Diversity. Explore the many faces of diversity and move beyond “tolerance” towards true acceptance of all races, religion, genders and generations.

Join us as we open the conversation on the importance of fully understanding and celebrating our differences and working together for a more engaged human spirit within us. CFS Lecture Series begins in August with Kimberly Krhounek, (see information below for more information on Kimberly).



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 12:15pm in the Chapel, bring a lunch. Currently studying *The Celtic World by Great Courses*.

Books Bible and Beyond

Wednesdays at noon in the Chapel. Resumes September 5.

Sunday Adult Forum

Meets at 10:10 AM in the Pilgrim Room. Currently studying “The History and Achievements of the Islamic Golden Age”.

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@couttrysideucc.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

QUESTIONS?

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

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

Email: chrisa@counttrysideucc.org

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

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

Email: courtneyh@counttrysideucc.org

Website: www.centerforfaithstudies.org

Face book: Center-for-Faith-Studies

Dr. Joe Starita

A Warrior of the People: The Story of Dr. Susan La Fleshe

Thursday, September 27, 2018 | 7 p.m.

Rev. Traci Blackmon

Social Justice and Faith: Faith Rooted in Activism

Thursday, October 18, 2018 | 7 p.m.

Dr. Jana Riess

Five Ways Millennials Are Shaping Faith Today

Thursday, November 8, 2018 | 7 p.m.

Dr. Jana Riess & Rev. Dr. Eric Elnes

Prayer Retreat- The Prayer Wheel

November 9- November 10, 2018

Silent Sacrifice

The Story of Japanese American Incarceration in California's San Joaquin Valley and Beyond.

Thursday, January 17, 2019 | 7 p.m.

Rev. Dr. Eric Elnes

Mystical Misfits Prayer Retreat

March 22- March 24, 2019

Institute for Holocaust Education

Date and speaker TBA

March 2019

Dr. Omid Safi

Radical Love: Getting Back to the Root of Faith

Thursday, April 11, 2019 | 7 p.m.

Kimberly Krhounek - Tuesday, 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. Tickets \$7 online at eventbrite.com | \$10 at the door.

ADULT EDUCATION

Earth University

Thursday evenings, September 6 - October 11, 7:00-9:00 PM in the Chapel

a series of classes specifically designed around the scientific explanation of climate change as related to our spiritual reality and to the ethical teachings found in our religions. The first of the series will be devoted to “air.” Each series will consist of between four to six classes designed to engage participants intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually with the intention of providing a path to mindful action. Our exploration will be aided by guest speakers, film and field trips. Be watching for additional information!



ENGAGING IN WORSHIP



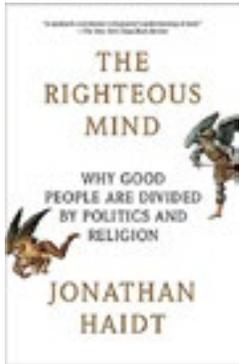
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Current Worship Series: Everyday Sunday - July 29 to 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.

All Church Read



Calling all small groups and anyone else interested! Center For Faith Studies is sponsoring a church read of *The Righteous Mind: Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion* by Jonathan Haidt for additional background for the sermon series beginning September 9! Eric says you can skip the first 97 pages and jump right into the heart of the discussion! Let us know if your small group would like to discuss this book or if you would like to start a small group for this sermon series! Contact Rev. Dr. Chris Alexander at chrisa@countrysideucc.org.

Fall Worship Series: Bridging Our Divides: Why Liberals and Conservatives Need Each Other - September 9 through October 14

You are invited to attend worship regularly this fall for our new series, *Bridging Our Divides: Why Liberals and Conservatives Need Each Other*. To accompany this worship series, the Center for Faith Studies will be sponsoring an all church read from a book suggested by clergy from Temple Israel. The book is: *The Righteous Mind: Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion* by Dr. Jonathan Haidt.

Countryside warmly welcomes and embraces a diverse group of people, representing a wide variety of political beliefs and personalities, educational and religious backgrounds, and social and economic circumstances yet we sometimes step on each other's toes, or mistakenly believe that everyone thinks or believes the same way. This series will draw inspiration from the Bible. Each week, we'll engage biblical stories and teachings, and lift up observations made by Dr. Haidt, illustrating ways in which political and religious "liberals," "conservatives," and those who relate to neither label can, and should, benefit from listening to each other and acting with mutual respect.

If you are someone who is as weary of the political and religious infighting as I am, this series should offer a infighting, this series should offer a breath of fresh air, allowing you to stand more strongly against the cultural tide to stand on a foundation of hope.

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

TURNING POINTS
CRISIS ← STRESS → OPPORTUNITY
Pastoral Care Workshop
Saturday, September 22 9 AM - Noon
see page 3 for details

COYO SR. HIGH
Wednesday, August 1 | 8 AM - 11 PM
\$30
Worlds of Fun
Oceans of Fun
SEE PAGE 6 FOR DETAILS

Coffeehouse Concert
Trio BEA & Friends
Saturdays, August 25
6:30 PM
Common Grounds
Coffeehouse

seeds OF ACCEPTANCE
Conversations on Diversity & Inclusion
CENTER FOR Faith Studies
Kimberly Krhounek
Breaking Down Cultural Barriers
Tuesday, August 7, 2018 | 7 p.m.
Tickets \$7 online at eventbrite.com | \$10 at the door
details page 4



YOUTH MINISTRIES

COYO SR HIGH

UPCOMING EVENTS

Worlds of Fun! Welcome the Freshmen - Wednesday, August 1 - 8 AM-11 PM

Welcome the freshmen and say goodbye to the seniors. Have a great time at Worlds of Fun and Oceans of Fun. Everyone is welcome to bring your friends. Bring money for food on the road and whatever games you play in the park. We will pay for lunch just before the park. Cost is \$30.

COYO Sr High & Faith Singers Fall Retreat - August 24-26

Leave Friday at 7PM and return Sunday by noon. Cost is \$30. This year's retreat is in Griswold, Iowa, at the Creighton Retreat Center. If you're thinking about joining Faith Singers, this is a great way to try it out. Fun, walking meditations, singing, and of course food, including homemade cinnamon rolls.

COYO Sr High Youth Group starts on Sunday, August 26, at 6:00 PM with Dinner.

Plug in this year and stay connected for Faith, Friends, and Service.

COYO JR HIGH

UPCOMING EVENTS

COYO Jr High Youth Group starts on Sunday, August 26 at 4:30 PM and ends with Dinner 6:00-6:30 PM.

Plug in this year and stay connected for Faith, Friends, and Service.

Confirmation starts on Wednesday, August 29

The first meeting is for students and parents at 6:30 PM in Memorial Hall. Every 7th and 8th grader is welcome to attend confirmation. It is a two-year study of Christianity, the Bible, the life of the church, and more. Everything Confirmation is online at <http://countrysideucc.org/confirmation>

MISSION SUNDAY

Mission Sunday is August 5 at both services. Come hear about the COYO Sr High mission trip to New Jersey, the Faith Singers Tour, and the COYO Jr High Hiking Trip to Colorado.



See more pictures on August 5, Mission Sunday.



2018 COYO Mission Trip and Faith Singers Tour - COYO Jr. High Trip was in progress as of publishing time.



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 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM, including dinner at 6 PM. The purpose is to build strong and welcoming friendships, serve the community together, and grow in faith.

Confirmation

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



CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING FOR AUGUST SERVICES

August 5 - Family Worship

Our children remain in the Sanctuary for the Worship service! Activity bags and books are available to borrow on a cart in the Foyer.

August 12 - Children's Church

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

June 17 - Family Worship

Our children remain in the Sanctuary for the Worship service! Activity bags and books are available to borrow on a cart in the Foyer.

June 24 - Children's Church

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS SEPTEMBER 9

Sunday School is an opportunity on Sunday mornings for our students in grades Pre-K (3-5 year olds) through 6th grade. During our time together, our classes explore scripture stories from the Christian tradition through discussions, activities, and prayer practices!

To register your student for Sunday School 2018-2019, please check our webpage: countrysideucc.org/learning-together/childrens-ministry/sunday-school/

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

All of our Children's Ministry Wednesday night activities begin on August 29 at 6:30! We are excited to return to our programming. See below for a description of our Wednesday night classes (Core 56 and Holy Moly).

CORE 56

Core 56 meets in the moderator's room from 6:30 until 7:30 PM. This group is for students in 5th and 6th grades. This year, we will explore scripture stories, work on developing skills for acting as an ally to marginalized communities, and spend time in fellowship! If your 5th or 6th grade student is planning to attend, please register on our webpage: countrysideucc.org/learning-together/childrens-ministry/core-56/ Students are welcome to bring friends!

HOLY MOLY!

Our Holy Moly! groups meet in the classrooms downstairs from 6:30-7:30PM. Group 1 is for students in grades K-2 and Group 2 is for grades 3-4. Holy Moly curriculum is written by Sparkhouse Publishing and each lesson focuses on a single scripture story with a video, story, and activity. Please register your Holy Moly student by visiting our church webpage: <http://countrysideucc.org/learning-together/childrens-ministry/holy-moly/>

NURSERY

Our nursery staff is available on Sundays from 8:30 AM until 12:30PM. 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 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

Explore Your Faith; Express Your Self

Fifty years ago, Countryside's pioneering music directors John and Phyllis Miller knew that music could take us all on a spiritual journey. Countryside's proud tradition of artistic excellence continues in 2018 with music and arts programming for every age. Here's a preview:

Arts Affirmation goes into its second year, offering dynamic programming married to the sermon series. Arts Affirmation includes art, drama, dance, instrumental, vocal music. New this year is Spirit Circle. Spirit Circle is an opening sequence of singing, prayer, and conversation about how faith exploration can be lived out through artistic expression. Leaders and mentors will guide students in original, individual content and collaborative projects.

Instrument Petting Zoo, August 12 and 19. Come explore our flaming tubanos (free-standing drums) and Orff instruments. Orff is a teaching approach grounded in child development that grows with the child. These foundation grant instruments saw kids using them in earnest this year.

Youth Choirs are taking faith expression through music outside the church and into action. With input from the youth, we're exploring venues like nursing homes and rallies, and any other place that the youth want to go. Tyler Gruttemeyer leads our youth again this year, and he is counting on input from the youth to design programming.

But wait, there's more. Why should the kids have all the fun??

Visual Arts for adults unveiled hidden talents and moving faith expressions when artists created an Advent Calendar in our Common Grounds gallery last year. This Advent, we will reveal a piece of art every day from December 1 through 24 inspired by the theme, "A Christmas Carol." Contact Cindy Cronn at cronn.cynthia4@gmail.com to sign up or get more information.

Tom Campbell is leading the sanctuary beautification team this year. If you have an interest in creating beautiful and reflective worshipful spaces, please contact Tom at tfcampbell1951@gmail.com.

Bell Choir? Forming a new Bell Choir might be possible if we can find two more members to make an octet! Six people are interested. Music reading highly desired, experience not required. Evening rehearsal time to be decided by the membership.

Adult Choirs sing, laugh and fellowship. Join us! We're always looking for more singers. And we have great parties, too.

There are many ways to express our faith through the arts. If you have an idea to share, reach out to Amy Luckenbill at amyl@countrysideucc.org.

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

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. Resumes on August 26..

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. Resumes on August 29.

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. Resumes on August 26 retreat.

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. Resumes on August 22.

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. Resumes on August 22.

QUESTIONS?

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

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



Faith Singers Tour





THE BOX FOR AUGUST

Your Board of Christian Outreach (BOCO) is collecting personal care items (things like toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, lotion, soap, body wash, etc...) throughout August which will be donated to Child Savings Institute. For additional information please contact Sarah Miller (swaetzmill14@gmail.com) or Sharon Royers (sroyers@centurylink.com.)

COMMUNITY CUPBOARD

Countryside Community Church believes in caring for the marginalized within our community – locally and globally. Last month we shared the history of Countryside's involvement in the creation of Los Chavalitos Clinic in Managua, Nicaragua. This month we will focus on Countryside's food pantry; the Community Cupboard. Rain or shine...the first Saturday of each month, with help from as many as 60 volunteers and The Food Bank of the Heartland, the gymnasium at Countryside turns into a free grocery store for local families. Since October 2010, Countryside's Community Cupboard has provided groceries to 250+ local families each month which represents approximately 500+ individuals! The food that is distributed to the pantry patrons is purchased through the Food Bank of the Heartland with funds that are donated through grants, church offerings and personal donations.

The pantry takes place in the church gymnasium from 9:00 -11:30 AM. Volunteers are asked to arrive at 7:45 AM for check-in and then head directly to the gym to begin the set up process. As stated previously, it requires approximately 60 volunteers to operate the pantry on any given Saturday! The volunteer staff is made up of Countryside members, Millard Spanish Club students, Westside High School students, members from St. Wenceslaus, Covenant Church and other churches in the Omaha area; along with pantry patrons who once were "in need" of the pantry for food and now are "in need" of the pantry to give back. Many of our volunteers have become involved because they are called to follow Christ's example of helping those in need. As one of the volunteer leadership stated, "for me, the pantry is not really even about giving food, it is about giving dignity and worth; treating people with respect. The food is just a small thing; it helps people for a few days, The food is our conduit to show people that they matter." Please contact Mary Beth at marybethl@countrysideucc.org to learn how you can volunteer with this ministry.

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!

Organ Committee Update

As has been announced, Roy and Gloria Dinsdale have generously offered to underwrite the purchase of a new pipe organ and grand piano for our new sanctuary. An Organ Committee has been busy with the many tasks required to request bid proposals from some of the finest organ builders. Visits to see and hear the instruments of various builders in venues most like our sanctuary have been made. Further, the committee performed due diligence on each builder and reviewed the proposals received. The CRC received the recommendations of the committee in late July.

The architects, of course, have been an integral part of this process with the organ builder and the CRC, to figure out how the instrument will be integrated into the sanctuary design to be sure the worship space and the organ bring out the best in each other.

The details of this process are mind-boggling to the layperson! However, we are in good hands with the members of the committee: Rick MacInnes, Bruce Blanchard, Trisha Hoffman-Ahrens, Diane Hill, Pam Kregg, Amy Luckenbill and our principal organist, Alex Ritter, acting as committee chair and consultant.

Our sincere thanks to the Dinsdales for the gift of music these fine instruments will offer to Countryside and the wider community for many years and generations into the future!



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



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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Family Celebration Sunday - Sunday, September 9 - This is the Sunday set aside to celebrate our church family coming back together a fun filled summer. We will be celebrating friendships and community through an all church picnic held at the Pavilion at Elmwood Park, starting at 12:30 PM. You are asked to pack your picnic basket with dishes and tableware, bring your chairs and blankets/table cloths. Also, if your last name starts with A-R please bring a side dish or salad, S-Z please bring a dessert. The church will furnish the main dish (chicken from HyVee), water and lemonade. There will be games and activities for the children, time for conversation and reconnection. Come to church dressed for the event and we plan on seeing you there! (Signups are helpful, so stop by the Information Station to let us know your coming.) This event is co-sponsored through the Ministries of Children's Education, Youth and Life Ministry.

Family fun night at Vala's Pumpkin Patch - Friday, September 28, 5:00-10:00 PM. Be watching for additional information. This event is sponsored by the Family Activities Committee.

Trivia Night at Countryside Church - Friday, October 19, 2018 - Put a table of 8 together (cost \$12.50/person), get your competition on and join in the fun as we friend-raise and fund-raise to help defer the cost of the "All are welcome" tiles at the new church! Fun, food, facts and frivolous information will be plentiful! This event is for ALL AGES, friends of our church family, Tri Faith participants and more. This event is limited to 250 folks, so sign up early! Be watching for additional information. This event is sponsored by Countryside's E.T.C. (Events That are Cool) social committee.

Parenting with Love and Logic classes return to Countryside this Fall! Join facilitator Mary Johnston as she shares inside and information on who to navigate the world of parenting children of all ages. Even though you may have attended these classes in the past, a quick refresher never hurts. The process works on all ages and stages of kiddos and the fellowship and bonds you create with others in your class last a lifetime! Sign-ups are requested to ensure we have enough materials for everyone. Suggested donation for the class is \$70/couple for new participants and \$15/person for a "refresher" course with confidential scholarships available upon request.

SOCIAL GROUP UPDATES

Family Activities Committee members will meet on Sunday, July 26, 10:00 a.m. in the Family Life Office to discuss upcoming Fall events.

ETC will meet on Wednesday, August 22 at 6:00 PM to continue planning/organizing upcoming summer and fall events. Be watching for our location. RSVP to Mary Beth at marybethl@countysideucc.org.

Interplay will meet on Saturday, August 11, 9:30-11:30 AM in the Foyer at Countryside Community Church. For additional information or questions, please contact Rita Otis at rmotis@outlook.com.

Tai Chi Chih classes will be held on Thursday mornings at 9:30 AM, in the Foyer of the church. Contact Rita at rmotis@outlook.com for additional information.

Photo Directory Update... MORE PHOTOS ARE NEEDED We ask that you find a photo, scan and email it to the church OR bring it into Countryside's Main Office (preferably a copy of the original, just in case we would misplace it), and attach a listing of name of all in the photo (thus giving us correct spellings). Once we have those in hand, we will add them to the collection.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

The Community Cupboard Food Pantry

Folks are needed to help set up and distribute food at the pantry on August 4. Hours are 7:45-11:30 AM. Contact communitycupboard@countysideucc.org.

Tri-Faith Picnic

The Annual Tri Faith Picnic will be held on Sunday, August 12! Check your calendars to see if you are available to help at this AMAZING event which will be held at Temple Israel this year! Sign ups are available at the Information Station or by signing up on Signup Genius

Thank you!

Thanks to the **Board of Christian Education** for hosting coffee hour throughout the month of August. Be sure to stop one of the board members to learn more about what that Board is responsible for and how you might help.

Kitchen helpers are needed!

THANKS TO Cherine Bashara for her dedication and organizational skills as she keeps our church kitchens picked up and looking great! However, she is doing this all by herself! Countryside's four kitchens need a group of folks who are willing to come in weekly to clean countertops, empty dishwashers, wipe down appliances and general light cleaning so our kitchens are a healthy and more inviting place to work. Contact Mary Beth for more information.

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

Countryside's two social committees dedicated to family life are always open to newpeople! If you 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 and talk to Mary Beth to learn more.

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@countysideucc.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 4th Wednesday of the month, 6:30 PM. Contact Mary Beth at marybeth@countysideucc.org.

Knit-n-Wit

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

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@countysideucc.org.

Nine-to-Dine

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

Lunch Bunch Circle

This group meets for lunch as well as special programming on the 2nd Monday of each month, September through May. Contact 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. Meets Fridays at 10:00 AM. 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@countysideucc.org.

Mahjong

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

BOARDS & COMMITTEES

See countysideucc.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

TEMPLE ISRAEL GOLF OUTING

Monday, August 13 at 12 PM - 8 PM
 Shadow Ridge Country Club, 1501 S. 188 Plz.

Come out for an afternoon of golf with your Temple Israel friends! The afternoon kicks off with lunch at noon and a shotgun start at 1 PM. Cocktails will begin at 5:30 PM and dinner begins at 6 PM. Whether you shoot birdies or need to take a few mulligans, the golf outing is for everyone. If you would like more information or if you would like to donate a raffle prize, please contact Temple Israel, 402-556-6536. All are welcome to attend!

AMERICAN MUSLIM INSTITUTE (AMI)

Tour information

AMI tours are still going strong! They have been giving tours to the community on a weekly basis. If you or an organization you know is interested in touring AMI you can contact them at 402.884.0070 or email at info@americanmusliminstitute.org for the next available tour or to set one up for a larger group.



TRI-FAITH KIDS PICNIC

Saturday, August 4 at 12 PM - 2 PM
 AMI, 13140 Faith Plz.

Halal Hamburgers, Kosher hotdogs, and drinks will be provided. Please bring a side or dessert to share. No pork, gelatin, or shellfish products, please. RSVP to anjistanek1@gmail.com or via FB event page



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.



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

HOLIDAYS

Jewish

Selichot September 1

For many Jews, the High Holiday season begins with Rosh HaShanah and the start of the new month of Tishrei. Jewish tradition, however, teaches that the preceding month of Elul is a time of soul-searching and reflection to prepare oneself for the magnitude of the Days of Awe. It is during this time that we observe Selichot (also spelled s'lichot).

Muslim

Eid al-Adha August 22 - 25

Eid al-Adha takes place between August 22 and August 25, 2018. The Islamic festival is also known as the Feast of the Sacrifice or the Major Festival. It is a very important religious holiday for Muslims worldwide. Muslims, who are expected to dress in their finest clothing that day, go to the mosque to pray the prayer of the Eid.

Eid al-Adha honors Abraham (Ibrahim), who was willing to sacrifice his son Ishmael (Ismail). God then intervened and had Abraham by his angel Gabriel (Jibra'il) told, that his sacrifice has already been accepted. On Eid al-Adha today an animal needs to be sacrificed. The meat then has to be divided into three parts: one stays in the family, one needs to be given to the poor, and one needs to be given to friends or relatives.

Worship Series



EVERYDAY SUNDAY

Spiritual Practices for Everyday Life

July 29 - September 2

NON-PROFIT ORG.
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TRI-FAITH INITIATIVE
TRI-FAITH PICNIC



SUNDAY, AUGUST 12
12:30 - 3 PM

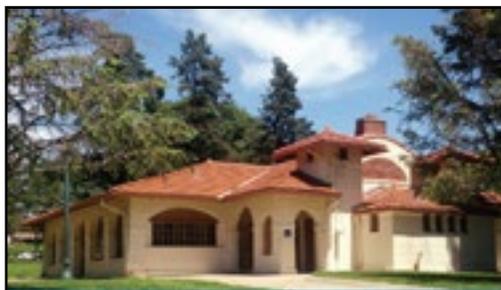
TEMPLE ISRAEL
13111 STERLING RIDGE DRIVE

Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. No pork, shellfish or gelatin dishes.

Please bring peanut butter to donate to Countryside Community Cupboard



see details page 1



Family Celebration Sunday

Sunday, September 9
12:30 PM
Elmwood Park

Last names A-R bring side dish.
Last names S-Z bring dessert.

Pack your own dishes.
HyVee will cater chicken, water and lemonade.

There will be games and activities for the children.

Sign up at the Information Station!

Co-sponsored by the Ministries of Children's Education and Youth and Life Ministry

More information page 10



Fall Program Start Times:

Wednesday Education Night

Confirmation: August 29

Holy Moly: August 29

Core 56: August 29

Bible Study: on going

Confirmation Singers: August 29

Adult Choirs: August 22

Sunday Youth and Children Programming

Arts Affirmation: August 26

Faith Singers: August 26

COYO Jr. High: August 26

COYO Sr. High: August 26