



## YOUTH MISSION TRIP

### Our senior high is headed to St.Louis!

From July 8 to 15 we will spend time connecting with and serving St.Louis. The youth group will be working directly with SEED St.Louis, an organization with a mission to address food security and sustainability throughout the city's region. This non-profit was born in 1984 aiming to connect people to healthy food and the land around them. SEED has several programs with goals of providing communities with education, resources, and a network of people. When our group joins them, we plan to provide them support with ongoing work and any projects that require a large group of people. We will have the opportunity to volunteer in both community and school gardens. Most mornings we will spend a few hours with SEED to provide general garden maintenance and care, produce care and harvesting. Along with our physical support, BOCO has assigned the June Box to gather resources for SEED, that we will deliver to the organization. Our students have spent this school year deepening their understanding of the importance of community, community gardens and food sustainability. With that, we have worked together to learn more about those systems and needs in Omaha and St.Louis specifically. It's been great to learn how every community is unique in its needs and resources. Along with our garden work and education with SEED, we will do a lot of wonderful activities.

On Sunday we will join a UCC church for their Sunday morning worship service. We look forward to experiencing how another UCC church celebrates Christianity. Along with our time with SEED, we will go to the National Blues Museum and the Laumeier Sculpture Park. We also plan to scope out some fun local food and dessert shops to check out. We will spend time nourishing our relationships with ourselves and our group internally as well. We will spend Sunday talking about what a true Sabbath is and we will recognize the Sabbath on Sunday and spend time resting together and individually. We will watch Youth VS the Government one night and share our thoughts, and spend an evening or two together playing games, watching TV, and reading. The students are also looking forward to bringing recipes and cooking for the group for various meals. Because we will be returning on July 15, the students have decided to have a lock-in and all go to the Heartland Pride Parade together on the July 16!

# COUNTRYSIDE CARES



## BIRTHS, WEDDINGS AND MEMORIALS

Births:

**Joel and Katie Martin** welcomed son, Luke Gregory Martin, born on Tuesday, May 10. He joins big sister Lauren and big brother Cameron. The whole family is feeling extra blessed and so in love.

Wedding:

May 21, **Rachel Mahlberg** and **Pete Danielson**

Memorials:

**Kari Walters'** father, George Walters, passed away on Friday, April 15.

**Joan (Tony) Snyder**, former long-time member of Countryside passed away on April 21 at the age of 94 in St. Louis, MO. (She and her husband, Tony, moved to St. Louis in 2002. Tony just celebrated his 98th birthday on April 12.)

**Judi Ried** passed away on Friday, April 29. Her service was held at Countryside on Wednesday, May 4.

**John (Amy) Kampfe's**, mother, Sally Kampfe, passed away on Sunday, May 8.

**Ann Burdette** passed away on Sunday, May 15. Her funeral will be held at Countryside on Thursday, June 9 at 1 PM.

## COUNTRYSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH COVID-19 POLICY

Countryside is following the CDC Community Levels for Douglas County regarding masking. If the current Douglas Country risk level is low (green), masks are optional.

If it's medium (yellow), masks are recommended/requested.

If it's high (orange), masks are required.

For more detailed information on Countryside's new policy, please go to the Countryside website <https://countrysideucc.org/covid19>.

## THANK YOU!



A big thank you to Tyler Curnes of Ty Curnes Creations for donating this beautiful piece, Community, that now adorns our baptismal font. Tyler works with glass to create custom, kiln-fired art and lighting pieces. He enjoys all forms of design from small bowls and serving plates to trivets to large wall art pieces to wall sconces and special lighting. All of Tyler's work is hand designed and created in the colors and textures of the client's choosing. If you are looking for a truly unique gift or a one-of-a-kind design for your home or business lighting needs, Tyler is the artistic craftsman you need to see.

You can see more of his work at [curnescreations.com](http://curnescreations.com).

### Staff

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# COUNTRYSIDE CONNECTED



## PHOENIX AFFIRMATIONS

These Affirmations are a set of 12 principles originally designed to define the emergence of Progressive Christianity. Join us as we learn more from each other about the Three Great Loves: Love of God, Love of Neighbor and Love of Self. You do not have to be a member to attend and if you have been a member for years and have never attended, you are welcome as well. Books are available at the Welcome Center. There is a waitlist for the next class so if you are interested in this study of progressive Christianity, please add your name to the list. You may do so by contacting Diane Scott at 402-707-1556 or [dianes@countysideucc.org](mailto:dianes@countysideucc.org).

## SUNDAY MORNING RACIAL JUSTICE BOOK GROUP

The Sunday Morning Racial Justice Book Group is taking the summer off and will resume after Labor Day

## MINDFUL MEDITATION SITS, WEDNESDAYS AT 7 PM

Mindful Meditation Sits are continuing on Wednesday evenings from 7-8 PM via Zoom. You can access these sits through the Zoom link on the church calendar: [countysideucc.org/calendar](http://countysideucc.org/calendar) If you have any questions or would like more information about these opportunities, please contact the church office at [office@countysideucc.org](mailto:office@countysideucc.org). or call 402-391-0350

## F.A.M.E. (FRIDAY ARTS & MUSIC EXPERIENCE) EVERY FRIDAY AT 10 AM

Join a fun group of seniors every Friday at 10 AM at Countryside for an art project, a yummy treat and some good music. We may also have visitors from time to time. It is a great way to get out of the house and enjoy time with friends for an hour. Everyone is welcome. No reservations are required.

## F.A.T.E. (FAITH AND THE ENVIRONMENT)/CLIMATE JUSTICE DESIGNATION

"We are at a critical point of losing so many species from local ecosystems that their ability to produce the oxygen, clean water, flood control, pollination, pest control, carbon storage, etc, that is, the ecosystem services that sustain us, will become seriously compromised." Doug Tallamy, Professional Entomologist at the University of Delaware. The fear that a statement like this stirs up in us can be paralyzing but...it doesn't have to be. There are simple actions we can take that can make a difference for nature, energize our spirit and renew hope for the future. We find a few of those simple but consequential actions laid out in Doug Tallamy's "Nature's Best Hope", a Faith and the Environment book read coming up in September. The book educates readers on the many benefits of reducing the size of our lawns and replacing lawn with native grasses and plants. Insects..."the little things that run the world" according to E.O. Wilson need the native plants they have evolved with over the last 10,000 years to survive. They are the main way nature converts plant life into animal life, part of the exquisite web of Creation.

You can easily find "Nature's Best Hope" at your favorite book outlet for an uplifting summer read. Watch for details on this FATE sponsored book read in the C10.

## RACE IN AMERICA

The Race in America Book study will be continued through the summer on Zoom on Wednesday nights at 6:30 PM. We are currently working our way through Four Hundred Souls by Keisha N. Blain. Some of the works that we have studied are White Fragility, Caste, How To Be an Anti-Racist, Killers of the Flower Moon and others. Each one takes us further on our journey to understanding racism in America and our efforts to be a part of the solution. Interested? Contact Diane Scott at 402-707-1556 or [dianes@countysideucc.org](mailto:dianes@countysideucc.org).

## MEN'S BREAKFAST, TUESDAYS AT 8 AM

Looking for fellowship and great conversation? Check out the weekly Men's Breakfast at First Watch on 72 and Pacific. Every Tuesday morning at 8 AM feel free to stop in and have breakfast. You can come every week or stop in once a month, it's up to you! All are welcome to attend!

## LUNCH BUNCH - SECOND MONDAY OF MONTH

The next Lunch Bunch is on June 13 and is meeting at Taxi's (1822 N 120th St) at 11:30 AM. If you're interested in joining this group, which is our traditional "circle" group from way back, please contact Gloria Ried at [g-g.ried@cox.net](mailto:g-g.ried@cox.net).

## PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE THURSDAYS AT 9:00 AM

Thursdays at 9:00 AM in the Sanctuary, you are invited to come together to develop the spiritual practice of group prayer. We come together to pray for any and all prayer needs and requests, for ourselves and others.

# COUNTRYSIDE UPDATES



## CHURCH COUNCIL

We value your candid feedback on our church.

If you have topics of concern or would like the church to reach out to you, please write to [churchcouncil@countrysideucc.org](mailto:churchcouncil@countrysideucc.org).

We want to hear from you and we appreciate you taking the time to comment.

## COUNTRYSIDE MISSION STATEMENT

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, equality and justice in our conflicted world.

## PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

Your Pastoral Search Committee (PSC) continued to meet in May. We gave a monthly update to the congregation the first Sunday of the month, facilitated a Town Hall/Forum opportunity for members on May 1, and continued progress on a survey with members of our Survey Task Force.

### Monthly Update

Mark Draper will be representing the PSC Committee on June 5th at our 10:00 Sunday service with our monthly update.

### Survey

Our intention is to administer the survey to the congregation in June. Please check the C10 for more specific information.

### May 1 Town Hall/Forum

Members of our congregation were invited to provide input as we move forward with our search for a settled minister. We gathered in 4 groups with approximately 12-15 members in each and gained valuable insight into the 2 questions that were asked -

\*What attracts you theologically to Countryside Community Church?

\*What do you see as the top 3 priorities for Countryside Community Church in the next 3-5 years?

We've begun the review and discussion of the valuable feedback received and our intent is to share more information in the near future.

### PSC Email

We value your questions and feedback so please email any questions, comments or concerns to [pastoralsearchcommittee@countrysideucc.org](mailto:pastoralsearchcommittee@countrysideucc.org).

The Pastoral Search Committee looks forward to continuing to represent the members of CCC in our intentional search for a settled minister.

Kris Hess	Mallis Bonner	Sharon Royers
Mark Draper	Bob Davis	Adam Steinbach
Cathy MacInnes	Mimi Goings	Elaine Wiles
Shelley Boyd	David Hubbard	

## INTERIM SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Interim Search Committee is pleased to share that we have two candidates who have risen to the top of our consideration. Both are trained and experienced in ministry in large congregations and are well versed in Intentional Interim Ministry. We have been proceeding cautiously and deliberately but hope to present a candidate soon. We will continue to review applications until we have a recommendation. Unlike the process for a Settled Minister, the congregation does not vote on an Interim Minister, but we are committed to the smoothest possible transition with as much transparency as possible. Therefore we are seeking input from staff and leadership in a variety of ways to balance openness to the congregation while respecting the privacy of candidates. We are eager to begin our next phase as a congregation!

Teri D'Agostino	Pam Kregg
Matt Atchison	Rick MacInnes
Mike Bonner	Deb McCollister

# TRI-FAITH INITIATIVE AND OUR FAITH PARTNERS



## TEMPLE ISRAEL

### FAREWELL SHABBAT FOR RABBI STOLLER

Friday, June 3, 6 p.m. Join our entire community to celebrate Rabbi Stoller as our senior rabbi and wish him well on his next venture in New York! Together as a congregation we will say thank you and celebrate the contributions that Rabbi Stoller has made to Temple Israel, to Omaha, and to the Reform Jewish movement. Plan to stay for the oneg after services and enjoy the chance to socialize with Rabbi Stoller, his family, and fellow congregants. Dessert oneg to follow.

## AMI

### EXPERIENCE THE TASTE OF AMI

On Friday, June 24, from 1:15 - 2:15 PM the American Muslim Institute cordially invites us to visit the mosque for their Jummah (Friday) prayer service. Beginning at 2:15 PM there will be a cultural fair showcasing foods, clothing and traditions of the many diverse communities represented within the AMI community. Registration required - go to [tri-faith.org/events](http://tri-faith.org/events) to register.

### Appropriate Dress

Guests are encouraged to dress respectfully for each service. Long dress pants or skirts are recommended, and long sleeved shirts for all guests plus a headscarf for women is requested at AMI.

## TRI-FAITH INITIATIVE OTHER ACTIVITIES

### TRI-FAITH UNITY GARDEN AND HOPE ORCHARD (South of Temple Israel)

Volunteer at the Garden

Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM CDT

Connect with people of diverse faiths while stewarding the environment.

Sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a054bafaf2ba6fc1-april1>

### Reconstructing Ethnicity: The Process of Assimilation for Latinx Jewish Immigrants in the United States with Dr. Laura Limonic

In this special session of Abraham's Whiteboard, guest host Dr. Laura Limonic will discuss Jewishness, race, ethnicity, and immigration through the stories of Latinx Jews in the United States. She will explore how ethno-religious identity is constructed for new immigrants in the United States by asking key questions such as: How do Latinx Jews identify? Can they choose their identity or is it assigned to them? Is ethnicity strategic or instrumental? Drawing on the experiences of Latinx Jewish immigrants, the historical roots of Jewish migration streams to Latin America and the United States and a sociological comparative perspective, Limonic will discuss how group construction is never static, and, in particular, how race, religion, and class interact in the immigrant assimilation process.

Laura Limonic is an Associate Professor of Sociology at the College of Old Westbury of the State University of New York. Her research is in the area of contemporary immigration to the United States and the integration trajectories of ethnic and ethno-religious groups.

Abraham's Whiteboard is a monthly educational class led by Tri-Faith's Education Director, Jeremy Fricke, on a wide variety of special topics, historical moments, and world religions. All Abraham's Whiteboard sessions are open to all people regardless of background, but will connect the content to Judaism, Christianity, and/or Islam.

## THE BOX FOR JUNE & JULY

### JUNE:

Our senior high youth are traveling to St. Louis in July to volunteer with Seed St. Louis, a non profit network of over 250 urban community gardens and orchards in food-insecure neighborhoods. Seed provides tools, education and empowerment to folks in need and our kids want to help in two ways: 1. By providing physical labor - getting their hands dirty and 2. by bringing with them a wish list of needed gardening supplies.

To Give:

Go to the website [countrysideucc.org/give](http://countrysideucc.org/give) to find the Wish List for Seed St. Louis. Your purchases come to Countryside and our eager young workers will arrive at their work sites laden with goods to help people feed themselves and their families.

### JULY: BACKPACK TIME!

As Omaha's children prepare for a new school year we want to give them a new backpack to carry their supplies, keep them organized and ready to learn.

To Give:

Please deposit new backpacks in the Box located in the entryway in the church or go to [countrysideucc.org/give](http://countrysideucc.org/give) and purchase backpacks from the Wish List. BOCO will see that packs are distributed to students who need an extra helping hand to get ready to learn.



# GET INVOLVED

## VIBRANT WELCOME

The first brainstorming meeting for Vibrant Welcome was held on Monday, May 16th and there was an enthusiastic sharing of ideas. Approximately 45 volunteers have asked to be a part of this important work. If you have any ideas to share or would like to work with us on this please contact Diane Scott at 402-707-1556 or [dianes@countysideucc.org](mailto:dianes@countysideucc.org).

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT RE-OPENING COMMITTEE

Interested in a short term commitment with huge impact? Then we have the opportunity for you. The Wednesday night reopening committee is looking for short term volunteers or simply congregational input in its focused efforts to get activities kickstarted on Wednesday nights at CCC, starting Sept. 14th. We meet every other Wednesday in the coffee shop from 6-7:30. Please email [dougdushan@yahoo.com](mailto:dougdushan@yahoo.com) or simply show up!

## NEW MEMBERS



Holly Kelley



Nancy Deetz



Tom Welch



Mike and Amy Phillips

Not pictured:  
Rachel Mahlberg and Pete Danielson



# YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES



## YOUTH GROUP

For the months of June and July, here's our Sr. High Youth Group schedule for Sunday evenings from 6-8PM:

June 5 - Countryside Member Guest—Leah Georges will come to Youth group to talk about her sermon. We'll show the sermon at 6:30 and Leah will join us at 7PM.

June 12 - Juneteenth video and discussion

June 19 - no youth group - Father's Day!

June 26 -Urban Farming Film and discussion

July 3 - No youth group

July 10 - No youth group - Summer Trip

July 17 - No evening youth group

## MISSION SUNDAY

Our students who participated in the Youth Summer Trip will talk about their experience that following Sunday, July 17th! Please be at church around 9:00 AM for breakfasty foods in the Youth Room.

## D & D GROUP

Fridays June 3, June 17, July 1, and July 29 from 5:30-8:30 PM—please let us know if you're coming as we provide dinner.

## JR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP & CONFIRMATION

The Jr. High Youth Group will be up and running this summer! Please watch your email (and also read it) for the most up to date information!

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

During June and July, we'll be offering some activities for grade school aged kids and we'll announce these activities through email. If you aren't currently receiving the Children's Ministry weekly email, now is the time to get on the list! Please let me know and we'll take care of it, [rebeccam@countrysideucc.org](mailto:rebeccam@countrysideucc.org).

## Core 56 - 6-8:00 PM Wednesdays

June 1 - Nature walk and art project

June 8 - AVATAR MARATHON (Finish Book 1 hopefully)

June 15 - Dinner together and board games

June 22 - Kung Fu Panda

June 29 - Kung Fu Panda 2

July 6 - NO MEETING

July 13 - NO MEETING

July 20 - Kung Fu Panda 3

July 27 - Let's discuss Poe's journey!

## NURSERY

Nursery services will remain on pause until COVID numbers are lower. Although the nursery will not be staffed, the room will be available for parents of young children. The room will have toys, rocking chairs and a children's bathroom and changing area, and a monitor to watch the service. This is an option for parents who are wanting some extra space and focus on their children as needed while still having access to watch the worship service. For the record, your baby/toddler/young one is always...ALWAYS...welcome in worship complete with their little sounds, fussiness, giggles, grumps, and wiggles. All are welcome means all are welcome.



**SUMMER OFFICE HOURS**  
**8:00 TO 3:00**  
**MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY**

**SUMMER WORSHIP**  
**SUNDAYS AT**  
**10:00 A.M.**

June 5 - Rev. Don Sarton  
June 12 - Rev. Charlene Wozny

**More details on the summer series**  
**coming soon!**

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Omaha, Nebraska  
Permit No. 106

Heartland Pride is coming! On Saturday, July 16, Countryside will, once again, be participating in the Pride Parade and Festival. This year, the Open and Affirming Designation Group would like to declare that Saturday and Sunday, July 17 as Pride Weekend. Watch for updates for that Sunday on ways to participate. Sign up for the parade and festival booth in the foyer and Common Grounds. In addition, on June 12 and 19, Paisley Randazzo will be in Common Grounds, handing out her handmade Fruit Loop Rainbows and encouraging you to sign-up! For more details go to [countrysideucc.org/pride](http://countrysideucc.org/pride).



**PRIDE PARADE JULY 17**