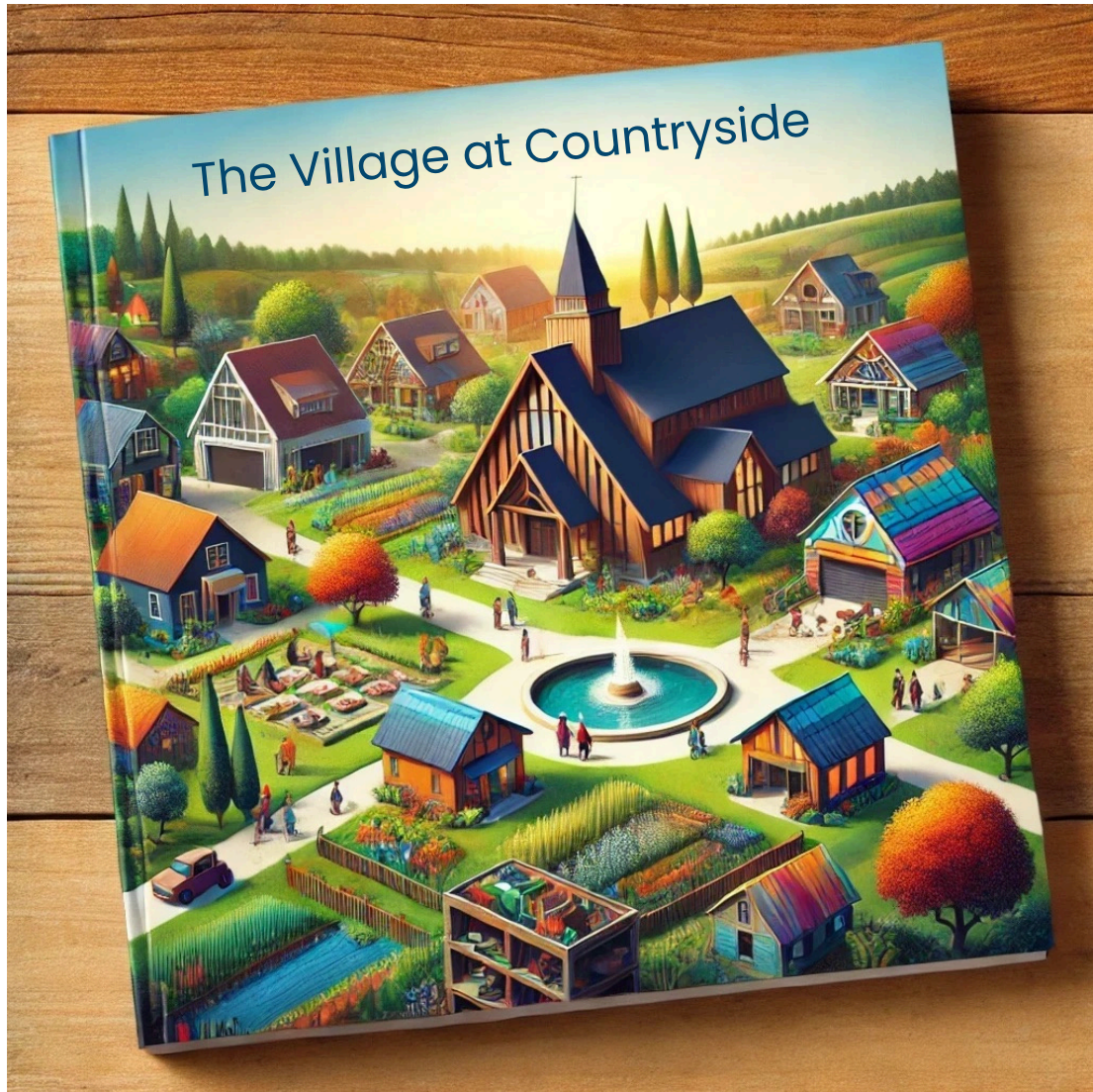


Countryside Community Church WORSHIP



August 25, 2024

† Indicates those places where those who are able are invited to stand.
Text in **bold** indicates places where the congregation is invited to join in response.

Gathering

COMMUNITY TIME (9:55)

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

PRELUDE

God Bless The Child

Billie Holiday / Arthur Herzog Jr.

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

†GATHERING SONG

Hymn #284 *Gather Us In* (vs. 1, 3)

†CALL TO WORSHIP (PSALM 84)

ONE: How wonderful it is to be in a dwelling place for God!

MANY: **The refreshing springs of God's love cleans and restore us.**

ONE: There is a place here for everyone. No one is turned away.

MANY: **The least and the lost; the homeless and hopeless are always welcome in God's house.**

ONE: Praise to God who invites and shelters us all.

MANY: **Praise to God who heals and sends us forth to serve. AMEN.**

†PASSING THE PEACE

One: The Peace of God be With You

Many: **And also with you.**

†HYMN OF RESPONSE

Hymn #687 *In Christ There Is No East or West*

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Rebecca Morello

(Children are invited to join Children's Church in the Chapel)

Hearing the Word

FIRST LESSON: Ephesians 6:10-20

Reader: Maggie Jones

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power; put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, for our struggle is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on the evil day and, having prevailed against everything, to stand firm. Stand, therefore, and belt your waist with truth and put on the breastplate of righteousness and lace up your sandals in preparation for the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

MUSIC REFLECTION

I'll String Along With You

Al Dubin / Harry Warren

GOSPEL LESSON: John 6:56-69

Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which the ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in a synagogue at Capernaum. When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before?"

It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the beginning who were the ones who did not believe and who was the one who would betray him. And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

MESSAGE

The Bread of Life...*Again?*

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

Responding to the Word

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN

Hymn #387 *Bread of the World, in Mercy Broken*

SHARING OUR GIFTS

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

The Social Justice and Outreach Board has designated the Stephen Center as the recipient of the August Box donations.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

**O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
We bow before you and thank you for the privilege
to participate in your acts of kindness and love here on earth.
May these gifts truly become instruments
of your purposes here in our church, our community,
and around the world. Amen.**

SERVICE OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them to God.

One: Let us give thanks to the God of love.

Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Remembrance

Please prepare to partake of the Eucharist in your seats. The communion kits include whole wheat bread and non-alcoholic grape juice. (Gluten-free is available.) Raise your hand if you need assistance with your communion elements and an usher will assist you. Communion cups may be discarded in the baskets as you leave the sanctuary.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks, gracious God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

†SENDING HYMN

Hymn #288 *O God of Vision* (vs. 1, 4, 5)

†BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

POSTLUDE

Handbell Duet: *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Julia Olynyk, vocals | Matt Wallace, sax | Rick Avard, piano | Carlos Figueroa, drums
Steve Gomez, bass | Alex Ritter, organ and handbells | Adam Witte, handbells

Sunday Flowers This Week

Flowers were given today by Linda and Bob Lovgren
in celebration of their 55th anniversary.

Joys & Concerns

Join us as we pray for our congregation members and their loved ones who are on our Joys and Concerns list every week on Thursdays at 9 a.m. in the Sanctuary. If you have someone who would benefit from prayer, want to share a joy or be included on the bulletin list and /or on Countryside's Prayer Chain, contact Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones at 402-391-0350, ext. 225 or sarahrj@countrysideucc.org

Please join in praying for the following new and ongoing concerns:

Nancy Deetz spent some time in the hospital dealing with side effects of a medication reaction. She will go to Brookstone Rehab after she is discharged from the hospital. Please pray for her recovery.

Please keep **Steve (Dinah) Gomez** in your prayers. His father, Gabriel, passed away on Saturday, August 17. His funeral will take place at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 2302 O St, at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, August 27. There will be a Rosary at 9:30 a.m. at the church. After the service, the interment will be at Saint John's Cemetery, 7506 S. 36 St. with a reception following the interment at the Our Lady of Guadalupe Hall.

Nona Morrison is dealing with some serious health concerns and would greatly appreciate prayers.

Bev Sarton passed away on Thursday, August 22. Please keep **Don** in your prayers for comfort and peace. Service details will be shared as soon as they are available.



September & October All Church Events

Barista On Board returns September 3! Tuesdays, 8:30-11 a.m.

Surprised and Stretched by Mk's story of Jesus with Denny Clark. Four weeks, Sept. 4, 11, 25 & Oct. 9., 6-7:30 p.m., Marys Hall.

Remembering Together: A Service of Prayer and Healing. Sept. 8, 6:45-8.

The Barber of Little Rock Sept. 12, 7-9 p.m., Temple Israel.

Nebraska Festival Singers Concert

Sep. 14, 6 - 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary.

Coffee with the Pastor Sept. 15, 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. in Common Grounds.

Village Dinner & All-Church Book Read Kick Off Wednesday, Sept. 18, 5-6 p.m.

Guest Preacher General Minister Karen Georgia A. Thompson Sunday, Sept. 29, 10 a.m., Sanctuary.

Revolution Bus Tour Wednesday, Oct. 2, 6-7:30.

Resonance Masterworks Concert Thursday, Oct. 3, 7-9 p.m., Sanctuary.

Guest Preacher Jim Wallis Sunday, Oct. 6, 10 a.m., Sanctuary. **Sermon Talkback**, 11:15, Marys' Hall.

Surprised and Stretched by Mk's story of Jesus with Denny Clark. Final class, Oct. 9, 6-7:30 p.m., Marys' Hall.

Coffee with the Pastor Oct. 20, 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m., Common Grounds.

Remembering Together: A Service of Prayer and Healing

Sept. 8, 7-8 p.m.

Remembering together the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001 and the continued suffering in the Middle East we hold fast to the teachings of God, and we turn to the healing presence of God through prayer. May God's healing presence be with us as we hurt together and work to heal together in this time of continued suffering and loss.

See details in the weekly C-10

Hosted by Countryside Community Church in partnership with American Muslim Institute and Temple Israel

THE BARBER OF LITTLE ROCK



THURSDAY 9.12.2024
AT 7 P.M.

TEMPLE ISRAEL



SPONSORED BY THE RACIAL JUSTICE WORK GROUP OF
TEMPLE ISRAEL & COUNTRYSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH



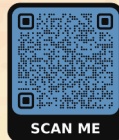
A SCREENING AND DISCUSSION
WITH GUEST SPEAKER **WILLIE BARNEY**



The Box - August

Operational and Household Needs
(NEW OR CLEAN, GENTLY USED):

- Kitchen/Bathroom/Bedroom essentials
- Home décor essentials (lamps, clocks, etc.)
- Cleaning/Laundry supplies



SCAN ME

Low Cell Signal?



Connect to Wi-Fi
CCC-Guest

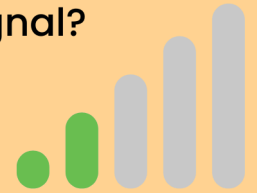


Enable Wi-Fi Calling
Apple

Settings/Cellular/Wi-Fi Calling

Android

Settings/Connections/Wi-Fi Calling



Emergency?

Phones are located in the Usher Room, reception desk, accessibility center and basement classrooms.

Connect with us!



Pew Registry

Check in to let us know you're here



YouTube

Use YouTube's live chat feature during the service



Instagram

Shout out when you're on Instagram



Facebook

Meet up with us on FB for devotionals, news & more!



New to Countryside?

Stop by the Visitor Table after service to pick up your free copy of William J. Barber's *We Are Called to be a Movement!* It's our way to say we're SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE!!!

Sharing our Gifts

Scan the QR code to visit the Countryside giving page to donate or give to the Box



COUNTRYSIDEUCC.ORG/GIVE