

Countryside Community Church WORSHIP



Countryside will host the Tri-Faith community tonight for *Remembering Together: A Service of Prayer and Healing* beginning at 6:45 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.

September 8, 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 AM)

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Jenny Shultz-Thomas

†GATHERING SONG Hymn #356 (vs. 1, 2, 4) *We, Your People, God, Confessing*

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

One: Those who trust in God are like the mountains,
immovable and abiding.

**Many: God shelters the people:
today and for eternity.**

One: Rich or poor, God creates us to pursue justice
and to care for one another.

**Many: Be a blessing, O God, to those who are good
and upright in heart.**

One: God calls us to be rich in faith,
to honor our heritage as heirs of the Kingdom.

**Many: We are blessed when we share our blessings,
that peace may be upon the people. Amen.**

†PASSING THE PEACE

One: The Peace of God be With You

Many: And also with you.

†HYMN OF RESPONSE

Hymn #335 *Creating God, Your Fingers Trace*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT & DISCOVERY KIDS

(Children are invited to join Heather & Rebecca for a lesson at the chancel and then head to Discovery Kids classes, Nursery is available for children 0-4 years.)

Hearing the Word

FIRST LESSON: James 2:1-10, 14-17

Reader: Nancy Cohen

My brothers and sisters, do not claim the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ of glory while showing partiality. For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here in a good place, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit by my footstool," have you not made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor person. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into the courts? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? If you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you do well. But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but does not have works? Surely that faith cannot save, can it? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

MUSIC REFLECTION

Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service

Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went by way of Sidon toward the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And his ears were opened, his tongue was released and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one, but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

MESSAGE*Be Open**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.

MUSICAL REFLECTION*For Hard Things*

Jane Marshall

SHARING OUR GIFTS

Rev. Sarah Rentzel Jones

The Social Justice and Outreach Board has designated Youth Emergency Services as the recipient of the September Box donations.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Abundant and gracious God, living bread and eternal love. We affirm your presence in our lives and give thanks for the blessings of faith. As your love enriches our lives, we pray that this offering can enrich and expand your work in the world – of healing where there is pain, of feeding where there is hunger, and of loving where emptiness would otherwise prevail. Amen.

HYMNHymn #356 (vs. 3) *We, Your People, God, Confessing*

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 #503 (vs. 3-5) *O Christ, the Healer*

†BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Alex Ritter, organ - C4 Choir: Adam Witte, director

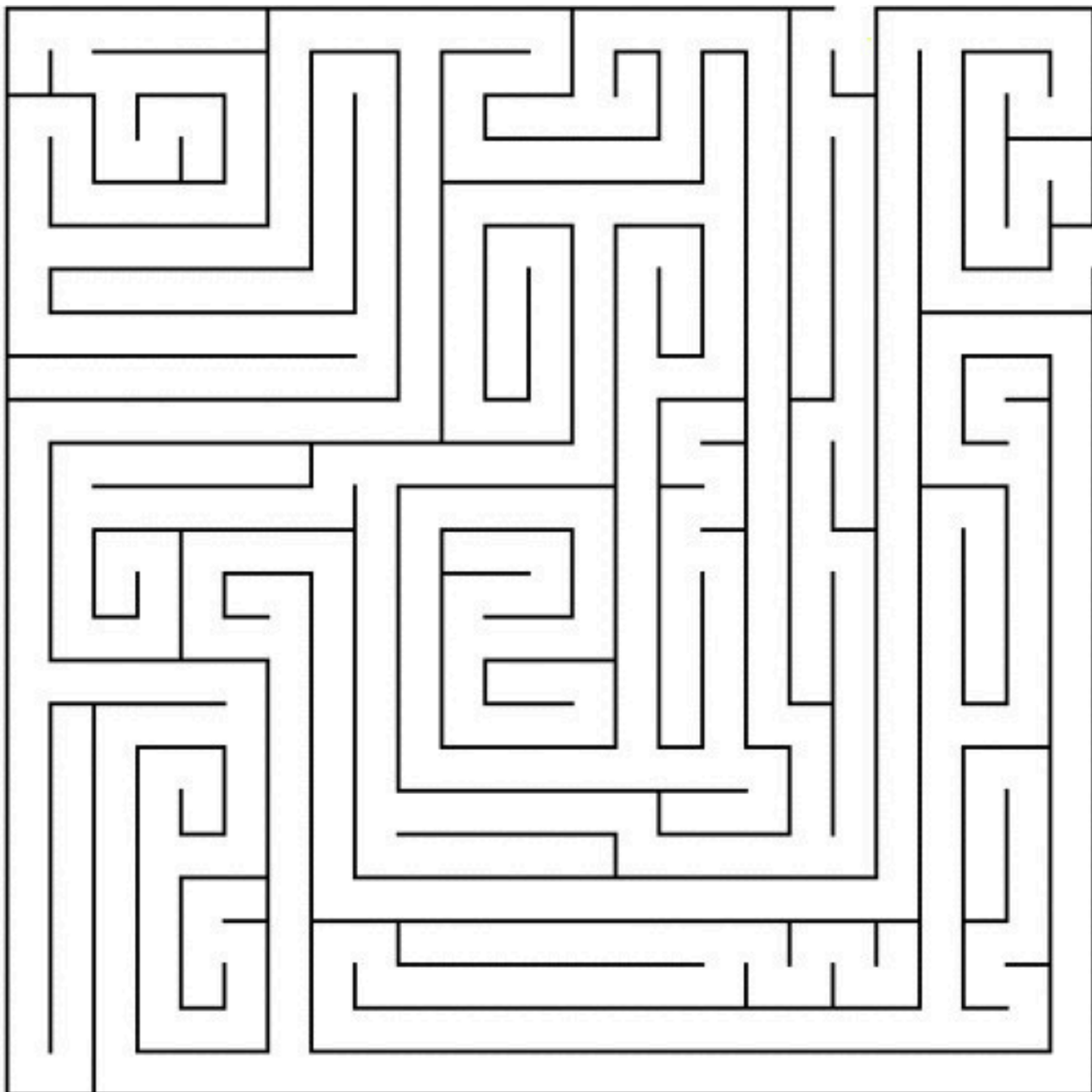
Joys & Concerns

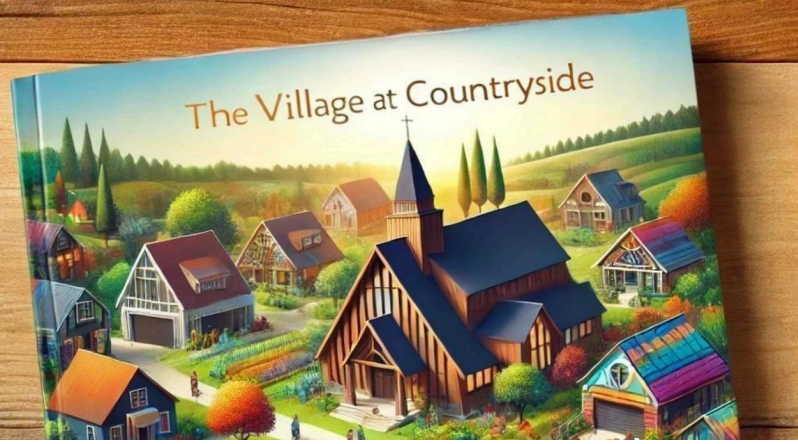
Join us as we pray for our congregation members and their loved ones who are on our Joys and Concerns list every week on Thursdays at 9 a.m. in the Sanctuary. If you have someone who would benefit from prayer, want to share a joy or be included on the bulletin list and /or on Countryside's Prayer Chain, 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 will be returning to Symphony Pointe this week in the respite care center. This is a step between independent and assisted living. Please pray for her continued recovery so that she can return to her apartment.







*Remembering Together:
A Service of Prayer and Healing*

Sept. 8, 6:45-8 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



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

Countryside Community Church
TEMPLE ISRAEL
150 YEARS
SPONSORED BY THE RACIAL JUSTICE WORK GROUP OF TEMPLE ISRAEL & COUNTRYSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH

**WE ARE
CALLED
TO BE A
MOVEMENT**

REVEREND DR.
WILLIAM J. BARBER II

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!!!

September Box

yes YOUTH EMERGENCY SERVICES

Youth Emergency Services (YES)

Personal care products for all skin/hair types, feminine products, fast food cards and bus passes are needed. If using the YES Wish List please look for those Outreach Center needs to honor the decision of our Countryside youth.



Your support keeps our coffee brewing! Thanks a latte from the Common Grounds Barista Bunch!




Sharing our Gifts

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

COUNTRYSIDEUCC.ORG/GIVE