

OCTOBER



oCCtoberFEST OCTOBER 16

You are invited to attend Countryside's inaugural oCCtoberFEST on Sunday, October 16 from 12:30 - 3:30 PM. We'll have a salubrious picnic of grilled burgers, brats and dogs under the "big tent", enjoy a beer tent, cake walks, pie eating contests, t-shirt art, pumpkin painting, games, singing, Joe-on-the-Go coffee and smoothies, a live band - (Caught Looking, featuring our own Rich Barmettler and friends) and much more! But, the best and the most important part of the entire event, will be sharing it with you, our Countryside family!

This event grew from a vision and feeling that was identified at the Tri-Faith Picnic. When observing the open hospitality, love, acceptance and conversation we shared between our church members and our

Tri-Faith brothers and sisters without hesitation or concern; it was obvious that we needed to celebrate our community for who and what we are. Countryside Church is a community that has, for over 60 years, accepted challenges, joys, heartbreak and excitement. We have done this as ONE FAMILY, open to direct conversations, hugs, laughter and tears. We have built a strong and vibrant home where ALL ARE WELCOME and questions and/or issues can be raised. We have been called to a new challenge and we are finding our way TOGETHER, as we create the next generation of Countryside Community Church. This vision and realization needs to be celebrated and honored for what it is! Join us in celebration!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- [Welcome - Page 2](#)
- [Pastoral Care - Page 3](#)
- [Center For Faith Studies - Page 4](#)
- [Journey Groups - 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 - 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. Chris Alexander
Associate Minister, ext. 130
chrisa@countysideucc.org

Executive Admin. Assistant

Robyn Hubbard
Executive Admin. Asst., ext. 103
robynh@countysideucc.org

Business Office

Dan Loven-Crum
Dir. of Admin. & Communication, ext. 102
[danl@countysideucc.org](mailto:d anl@countysideucc.org)

Shari Garder
Financial Secretary, ext. 123
sharig@countysideucc.org

Steve Gomez
Administrative Assistant, ext. 101
steveg@countysideucc.org

Debbie Vihstadt
Administrative Assistant, ext. 100
debbiev@countysideucc.org

Jerry Gray
Church Clerk
jerryg@countysideucc.org

Brian Palmer
Building/Property Coordinator
brianp@countysideucc.org

Audio/Visual

Nicholas O'Bradovich
AV Tech Leader
nicholaso@countysideucc.org

Ben Semisch
Videographer
bens@countysideucc.org

Minister of Spiritual Direction

Rita Otis
Minister of Spiritual Direction, ext. 129
rmotis@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 and for Wednesday evening programs. 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.

Box, Basket and List - The Box, Basket and List are three ways that Countryside shares our gifts with one another and our community. The Box is a way to share our material possessions with one another and is located in the Foyer. The Basket is Countryside's way of sharing financial offerings with our community for the support of our ongoing program ministries. The baskets are located at the back of the Sanctuary. And the List is the way we share of our time and talent with one another and is printed in the Order of Worship.

Restrooms - Restrooms are available on the main level by the offices and on the lower level by the elevator and by the gym.

Countryside Email list - If you would like to be on Countryside's weekly email list, please contact the church office at office@countysideucc.org or call 402-391-0350.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS STARTING

Are you interested in the possibility of joining Countryside Church or learning what Countryside may have to offer for you? Then consider joining us for membership classes from 7:00-8:15 PM on Tuesdays, October 11, 18, 25 and November 1. These classes will help you learn more about the church, the church staff, and the many church programs. At the end of the classes, whether you decide to join or not, is totally up to you.

Indicate your interest by signing up at the Information Station on Sunday morning or contact Robyn Hubbard at 402-391-0350 ext. 103 or robynh@countysideucc.org.

We'd love to have you join the Countryside family!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you to those who attended or helped with our "Aging at Home" workshop on September 24. Please see Jan Brown for any follow-up questions or materials.

Oct. 26 at WNA: Come hear more about the way Jeremy Wadhams and his family celebrate their heritage and loved ones through creative Day of the Dead activities. Countryside's Boards of Pastoral Care and Christian Education will be exploring this concept at the Latino Museum in early November in anticipation of celebrating a Day of the Dead through family activities here in November 2017. Please see Jeremy or Jan Brown if you're interested in helping develop this concept.

STEPHEN MINISTRIES ANNOUNCEMENTS

SMORE: Stephen Ministry Outreach Efforts! A new idea but a familiar need. Stephen Ministers are beginning an outreach effort to connect Countryside and our various church members who we've been missing for some reason. We'll begin with phone calls and progress to visits for anyone who would like that. Please call Jan or ask a Stephen Minister if you know of someone who could benefit from a little extra TLC.

October 4: Stephen Ministry Leadership Team will meet in Jan's office at 5:30 PM Oct. 4, followed by the larger Peer Support meeting in the Chapel from 6-7:45 PM. Please join us if you've been trained as a Stephen Minister, as we discuss many modes of service.

IN MEMORY

On August 29, Countryside member, **Richard Wiese**, age 94, passed away at the Community Care Center in Gretna after a long battle with dementia and finally a broken hip. Richard's life was celebrated at Countryside on Sept. 9 with Rev. Chris Alexander officiating.

On September 7, Countryside member, **Dorothy Dell McClelland Leigh** ("Dede") age 99, passed away. Dede's memorial service is to be held on Saturday, October 8, at 11 AM at Presbyterian Church of the Cross in Omaha.

On September 14, Countryside member, **Norma Daharsh Grasso**, age 83, passed away at Josie Harper Hospice House in Omaha. The funeral, on September 19, at Countryside was officiated by Rev. Chris Alexander.

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

WNA

W E D N E S D A Y N I G H T A L I V E

Wednesday Night Alive is for all ages! Enjoy a community meal, choir rehearsals and educational opportunities. This is a perfect way to connect with church friends, create new friendships or take time just to breathe!

WNA SUPPERS

Meals are \$5/person or you can purchase a month's ticket for \$20/person not to exceed \$80/family. Place reservations at the Information Station. Meals are served from 5:00 to 6:20 PM. Reservations are greatly appreciated.

See page 10 for the menu.

GRADE/MIDDLE SCHOOL

Choirs

Joyful Noise (Pre-K): 5:15-5:30 PM
Carol Choir (gr K-2): 5:15 - 6:00 PM - rm 114
Pilgrim Choir (gr 3-6): 5:15 - 6:00 PM - rm 117
Covenant Choir (gr 7-8): 6:15 - 7:00 PM - rm 117

Programs

Holy Moly (gr K-2): 6:30 - 7:30 PM - rm 112
Holy Moly (gr 3-4): 6:30 - 7:30 PM - rm 114B
Core 56 (gr 5-6): 6:30 - 7:30 PM - rm 110
Confirmation (gr 7-8): 7:00 - 8:00 PM - rm 119

Adult Choirs

Chancel Choir : 7:30 - 8:45 PM
Spirit of Grace : 6:20 - 7:20 PM

ADULTS/HIGH SCHOOL In The Commons

Come hear live music, enjoy barista drinks, and connect with good friends. Occasional programming events, too!

BOCO SERVICE QUEST 2017

Come hear various community outreach partners talk about their ministries until October 12.

- October 5 - Asian Rural Institute -The Asian Rural Institute (ARI) is an international training institute located in Japan, for grassroots rural leaders from developing countries, mostly Asia and Africa.
- October 12 - Together Inc.-Together. We are Collaborating to Prevent and End Homelessness in our Community.
- October 19 - Live Music
- October 26 - Pastoral Care presentation, "Day of the Dead" by Jeremy Wadhams



FALL FAITH STUDIES LECTURE SERIES

Center for Faith Studies Fall 2016 Lectures:
Who Do You Say That I Am? Conversations With the Soul

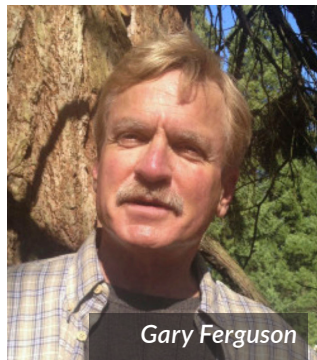
Thursday, October 6 at 7 PM- Orlando Rodriguez, *In Our Son's Name: 15 Years After 9/11*

Phyllis and Orlando Rodríguez lost their son, Greg, in the attacks on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. Their journey afterward is featured in a documentary airing on PBS in September as America marks the 15 year anniversary. Faced with grief, anger and questions of where God was, the bereaved parents choose reconciliation and nonviolence over vengeance on a transformative journey that both confirms and challenges their convictions. Eventually the path led them to publicly oppose the death penalty of avowed 9/11 conspirator Zacarias Moussaoui and also to befriend his mother. The film also features Talat Hamdani, whose heroic son, Mohammad Salman, perished rescuing others yet he was wrongly deemed a suspect due to his Muslim faith. The couple speaks out against anti-Muslim actions and has found peace in working with prison inmates. Along the way, they have found better understanding of each other and their son.



Orlando and Phyllis Rodríguez

Thursday, November 10 at 7 PM - Gary Ferguson, *The Carry Home: Lessons from America's Wilderness*



Gary Ferguson

Gary is the author of 22 books on science and nature, including his instrumental role in documenting the reintroduction of wolves to Yellowstone. His newest book, *The Carry Home*, is a moving celebration of the outdoor life shared between Ferguson and his wife Jane, who died tragically in a canoeing accident in northern Ontario in 2005, and a chronicle of the mending, uplifting power of nature. Confronting his unthinkable loss, Ferguson set out to fulfill Jane's final wish: the scattering of her ashes in five remote, wild locations they loved and shared. The act of the carry home allows Ferguson the opportunity to ruminate on their life together as well as to explore deeply the impactful

presence of nature in all of our lives. Theirs was a love borne of wild places, and *The Carry Home* offers a powerful glimpse into how the natural world can be a critical prompt for moving through cycles of immeasurable grief, how bereavement can turn to wonder, and how one man rediscovered himself in the process of saying goodbye.

All events are \$10. Tickets are available at EventBrite.com (search Center for Faith Studies) at the door, or between Sunday services.

RELIGION AND SUSTAINABILITY

Religion & Sustainability - Sundays, beginning October 2, at 5 PM in the Moderator Room. Taught by David Holtzlaw, Ph.D., Countryside member and adjunct professor at UNL who specializes in sustainable engineering and energy. This will be an interactive class to help participants gain a high school level understanding of the three global ecosystems: land, water and atmosphere and how our human made resources - energy, materials, transportation - effect these ecosystems. In addition, we will study how the main texts of all three Abrahamic faiths view sustainability and the environment. Sign up for the class in the foyer or by emailing kellyk@countrysideucc.org.

QUESTIONS?

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

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

Email: kellyk@countrysideucc.org

Website: www.centerforfaithstudies.org

Face book: Center-for-Faith-Studies



ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Sermon Series-Gifts of the Indigo Tent

Our current worship series is Gifts of the Indigo Tent. This series will last from September 11th through the end of Advent at Christmas. It will be divided into three smaller series. First, we begin with EAARTH which began September 11 with our Circle of Peace service and runs through October 16. This series begins with a funeral for a 46 year-old mother (who is an analogy to our 4.6 billion-year-old Earth) followed by several services that move us through the classic stages of grief (Denial, Anger, Bargaining, Depression, Acceptance).

Then October 22 through November 27, we'll shift gears to a "happier" theme - friendship. Eric will propose a "theology of friendship for wilderness wanderers" that moves us forward as a community of the faithful in a time of intense challenge. In this series, we will re-envision Christian faith and practice from the ground up based on a foundation of our friendship with God, Neighbor, Earth and Self.

Finally, December 4 through December 25, we will provide some preliminary answers to Jesus's question, "Who do you say I am?" by exploring how the early Christian community answered the question in the Gospel of John, through Jesus's famous "I am" (ego eimi) statements. What we will find is that the same beauty and majesty that inspired the early Christians and shifted the course of the world a step closer to the Promised Land, is still very much alive and may serve as a resource for our journey today.

There will be resources for your small groups. Eric will be writing a commentary on each week's message. This won't be a transcript of the sermon. Rather, it will be a 1,200ish word reflection that speaks to the heart of the week's message. He's calling it "Fire Starters." Video of the full sermon will be available online. We will also be providing discussion questions each week to help start the conversation.

Please let us know if your group will be following the worship series. If not, what are you currently studying? Would you like to welcome new members? And please verify when and where you are meeting. You can email Chris with your answers at chrisa@countrysideucc.org.

Journey Groups

Journey Groups are small groups that meet weekly to discuss and discover what our still speaking God is calling us to do in our lives, community and the world. In the process, we form deep relationships offering support to one another through life's journey.

New Journey Groups are regularly forming that meet to discuss the current sermon series, watch and discuss Darkwood Brew videos or engage in special small group studies. Join in and dig into some provocative theological discussions while developing lasting relationships. Contact Rev. Chris Alexander to get plugged into a Journey Group.

Free Darkwood Brew Membership

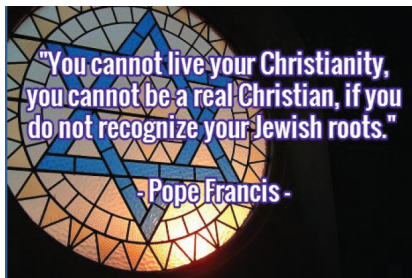
Did you know that as a member of Countryside you have free access to the entire Darkwood Brew video library? You can watch any of the 28 series with topics ranging from forgiveness to the environment at www.darkwoodbrew.org. Use the username: CCCUCC and the password: tryside8787.

QUESTIONS?

For more information about Journey Groups contact Rev. Chris Alexander.

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

Email: chrisa@countrysideucc.org



**Mondays at 10 a.m.
in the Chapel
Oct 31, Nov 7, 14 & 21**

*With Scholar in Residence,
Rabbi Aryeh Azriel*

Sign Up at the Information Station

*Tales of the Midrash:
Creation, Revelation and Redemption*

Who Do You Say That I Am? Conversations with the Soul.



October 6, 2016

Orlando Rodriguez

In Our Son's Name: 15 Years After 9/11



November 10, 2016

Gary Ferguson

*The Carry Home: Lessons from America's
Wilderness*

All Events are \$10. Tickets can be purchased at EventBrite.com (search for Center for Faith Studies)

Center for Faith Studies Fall 2016 Lectures

see page 4 for details

HELLO

New Members Class

Are you new to Countryside and want to learn more about the church, staff and programs? Join us in our New Members Class!

October 11, 18, 25 and November 1, 2016

7:00 - 8:15 PM

Contact Robyn Hubbard at: robynh@countrysideucc.org to register or sign up at the Information Station.

see page 2 for details



YOUTH MINISTRIES

COYO SR HIGH

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteer to coordinate a COYO dinner

We are looking for volunteers to coordinate, set-up, serve, and clean up COYO Sunday dinners this year. They are served every week at 6:00 PM in Memorial Hall. You can get a team together or do it by yourself. COYO meals serve 50 people. Use the sign up genius at www.countrysideucc.org/coyo.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Lock In-October 29 - 30 8:00PM - 8:00AM

Meet at church for a 12-Hour great time in your favorite building! There will also be a haunted house at some point in the night! At church, there will be lots of food, games, and friends. Sleeping bags are optional. Get picked up at 8:00 AM...PLEASE!

COYO JR HIGH

UPCOMING EVENTS

Skinny Bones-October 21 8:00PM - 11:00PM

Meet at church at 7 PM to go to Skinny Bones corn maze in Blair. There's lots of great Halloween stuff to do there that's included in the cost. Bring extra money if you want food. Hot chocolate will be provided. We will be back by 11:00 PM. Feel free to bring a friend, too.

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.

Confirmation

Confirmation meets Wednesdays at 7 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.

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.

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.

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.

9/11 CIRCLE OF PEACE

On September 11, 2016 the Tri-Faith Initiative hosted a Circle of Peace. Jews, Christians, Muslims and other community members participated to remember 9/11 and memorialize the victims of that day. The World Herald estimated 650 people were in attendance. Each person was invited to weave a piece of fabric into a weave board and to say a prayer for peace. The weaving will be kept here, at Countryside, until the Tri-Faith Welcome Center is constructed where it will find a permanent home. You can view a video of the event on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6q3SWCfdqw8>



Circle of Peace



Weave Board



Gathering at the Tri-Faith Campus

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 SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SERVICES

October 2- Family Worship

Children remain in the sanctuary with their families.

October 9 - Sunday School

Noah's Ark/The Great Flood: A story about listening for God amidst chaos

October 16 - Children's Church

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

October 23- Sunday School

Abraham and Sarah: Following God's call when surrounded by doubt.

October 30- Children's Church

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Book Fair- Looking for that perfect Christmas gift for your kids or grandkids? Stop by our Book Fair and shop award-winning Bibles, books, and videos for babies to twelve-year-olds. Save up to 40% PLUS free shipping on all Book Fair titles.

Stop by the Foyer October 9-October 23 between 9 AM Worship and 11 AM Worship and after 11 AM Worship to get faith-filled books and videos for your kids.

Our Book Fair, sponsored by Sparkhouse Family, will feature a wide variety of new resources based on the beloved Spark Story Bible, including a family devotional, a collection of prayers for kids based on the Psalms, a picture book about Noah's Ark, the first-ever animated Spark video (starring Squiggles the caterpillar!), and a new line of Spark Play and Learn Books to help make family faith formation easy and fun. Other noteworthy titles included in the upcoming Book Fair are a new Christmas picture book from the Frolic series and a gorgeous Advent pop-up book that will make a delightful gift.

Each book and video is designed to help parents instill an open-hearted, transformational, lifelong Christian faith in their children at every age and stage.

Our Nursery Ministry is a volunteer-based ministry that is sorely in need of reliable Countryside members to meet this need. This is probably one of the least glamorous volunteer opportunities at Countryside nevertheless—it needs to be done to help create a loving space for not only those members in the nursery but also those members in the Sanctuary, a Center for Faith Studies Talk, and various activities on Wednesday nights. Our nursery shifts run from 8:30 AM until 10:30 AM and 10:30 AM until 12:15 PM. Our Center for Faith Studies shifts are typically 6:45 PM until 8:30 PM. The Wednesday night shift runs from 6:20 PM until 8:00 PM. Yes...there are dirty diapers. Yes...there are children having a good time playing with toys and asking you a million questions. And yes...these small, curious, sometimes stinky Countryside members require attention, patience, and understanding. But each moment you spend with these little ones is an investment in the future of this church and the world. If you are willing to participate in this super important ministry, please contact Rebecca. She will hook you up with the proper forms (yes, you need to complete a background check) and get you all set up with some training and reassurance to get you on your way.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSROOMS

Lower Level

(take stairs or elevator one floor down)

9:00 Service

Room 114A - Grades K-6

11:00 Service

Room 117 - Grades 2-3

Room 114B - Grade 4

Room 112 - Grades 5-6

Upper Level

(same as the sanctuary, chapel, and nursery)

9:00 Service

Room 215 - Pre-Kindergarten

11:00 Service

Room 214 -Pre-Kindergarten

Room 213 - Grades K-1

Children's Education offers programs designed to inspire, explore, and develop a solid faith foundation. Through story, discussion, and experiential activities, our students embark on a Christian path encouraged by enthusiastic study, adventurous approach to Scripture, and cultivation of a strong faith community.

Nursery

Childcare is available during Sunday worship for infants and toddlers ages newborn to two-year-olds. Our nursery volunteers are trained and have passed background checks.

Acolytes

Our Fireflies bring the light of Worship into the Sanctuary each Sunday morning at 9:00 AM. If you are interested in your child becoming an acolyte, contact Rebecca.

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is a short summer camp designed to immerse our students in a community experience of scripture stories and activities.

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.

Sunday School

Our students and teachers engage with scripture and activities with our in-house curriculum through Countryside's theology and faith practices. Sunday School is offered for students pre-K through 6th grade.

Family Worship

Typically held on the first Sunday of each month, Family Worship offers the opportunity to share scripture, message, and communion as a family! Children's Bibles, books, and age-appropriate activity bags are available.

Children's Church

This child-centered Worship celebrates our faith stories with songs, scripture, and discussion while honoring faith practices like Communion, prayer, and stewardship! It's open to children five years old through 6th grade.

QUESTIONS?

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

Office Phone: (402) 391-0350, ext. 109

Email: rebeccam@countrysideucc.org



MUSIC & ARTS MINISTRIES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rehearsals In Full Swing

All of the choirs (including the reinstated Joyful Noise) have gotten off to a terrific start this fall. The Adult Choirs began rehearsing in August and combined for both services on 9/11, prior to our wonderful trip to the Tri-Faith campus for the Circle of Peace. Faith Singers started their year of rehearsals on the COYO retreat to Camp Rivercrest and sang (unaccompanied!) for the first time on September 18. The Children's Choirs take off on October 2.

Children's Choirs & Family Worship

In order to better organize schedules for the Children's Choirs, Children's Church, and Sunday School programs, we have decided to try having all of the kids sing during Family Worship. There are two added benefits to the change: 1) the kids will have a built-in fidget-buster in the middle of the service, and 2) the adult choirs will have a confirmed day off to sit and enjoy the kids' work from the congregation. We hope that the change is positive for everyone! If you have questions about the schedules, please contact your child's director.

Hospitality Need

The American Boychoir (Princeton, NJ) will be in Omaha from October 31 to November 2, as part of their Fall Tour. We are looking for 12 homes with 2 empty beds each that can house the boys (5th-8th grade) for one or both nights of their stay. Though there is not a full concert planned for the visit, the boys will perform a portion for us during their visit. If you are able to play host parent, please email Amy Luckenbill.

BAM Nominations

Please consider nominating someone to serve on the Board of Arts & Music. We have been reviewing our nominating information and had a lively discussion this week about who we need to serve. And we decided that "[n]o particular artistic, performance, or academic background in the arts is required, as views from the congregation (audience) side of the offerings broaden the discussion of how artistic endeavors are received and perceived." Come, help us broaden the discussion!

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.

Kids Music

Joyful Noise (Pre-K), Carol Choir (K-3) and Pilgrim Choir (4-6) are designed to allow younger musicians to develop their new music skills for worship. Rehearsals for the Carol and Pilgrim Choirs are on Wednesday evenings 5:15-6:00 PM. Joyful Noise rehearses from 5:15-5:30 PM. Each group sings monthly in worship.

Covenant Choir

Covenant Choir is for youth in grades 7 and 8. They rehearse on Wednesday evenings 6:15-7:00 PM before Confirmation Class in the Junior Choir Room. The choir sings monthly in worship.

Faith Singers

Faith Singers, for high school students, rehearses each Sunday from 4:45-6:00 PM. The choir sings most weeks during the school year.

Spirit of Grace

Spirit of Grace choir, also for adults, explores a variety of contemporary choral literature and sings once or twice per month. Rehearsals are Wednesdays, 6:20-7:20 PM.

Chancel Choir

The adult Chancel Choir sings selections from the Classical Choral Repertoire weekly in worship. Regular rehearsals are Wednesdays, 7:30-8:45 PM.

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

St. Matthew Lutheran and Countryside Community Church
PRESENT
"Psalms Reborn Encounter"
Chuck Marohnic and Carol Rogers



**October 9
4 PM**
Countryside Community Church
Ticket price \$14
www.eventbrite.com or
tickets will be sold in the
church office and in the foyer
before the event

The Psalms Reborn Encounter is a musical innovation that explores the depth and beauty of the Holy Bible's Book of Psalms, using the language of modern music, including jazz, rock, funk, R&B and world music. Pianist, author and composer, Chuck Marohnic composes all music for the Psalms Reborn Encounter.

Don't Miss: Master Class Workshops with Chuck and Carol
October 8 at 10 AM - Countryside Community Church
\$10 admission fee



THE BOX FOR OCTOBER

In October we are collecting canned meat (tuna, chicken) for the Community Cupboard.

MOST RECENT RESULTS FROM THE BOX:

Hundreds of pairs of new socks and underwear were donated to local families in the Omaha area. Thank you so much for contributing to the quiet dignity of those truly in need of these basic items.

BOCO SERVICE QUEST 2017

American Friends of Asian Rural Institute – October 5 – The Asian Rural Institute (ARI) is an international training institute located in Japan for grassroots rural leaders from developing countries in Asia and Africa. Their training focuses on sustainable agriculture through integrated organic farming techniques, community building and servant leadership. At the heart of their program is the concept of “Foodlife” – a term designed to recognize and value the interdependency between life and the food that sustains all life. Countryside Community Church has been an active partner with ARI and we are pleased to share their message with the Countryside family once again.

Together Inc. - Together- October 12 - We are collaborating to prevent an end to homelessness in our community. Together has been a long-time mission for Countryside Church. Mike Hornacek, Executive Director of Together Inc., will be sharing stories and information specific to their mission of providing emergency resources and navigation to working families in extreme poverty to rebuild housing stability. They value hope, dignity, compassion, excellence, and diversity when serving the nearly 22,000 individuals and families they see each and every year.

QUESTIONS?

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

Christian Outreach embraces opportunities that reflect appreciation, respect, and love where there was otherwise much neglect - providing funding and service opportunities that nurture lasting change in our congregation, our community, and our world.

The Box

...is where specific items are collected each month to address various needs. “The Suitcase” is where we continuously collect hotel-size toiletries. Both are in the Foyer near the front doors.

Community Cupboard

A large mobile food pantry takes place right here at Countryside on the first Saturday of each month from 8:00-11:30AM. You are invited to come witness this miracle happening!

Holiday Offerings (Christmas and Easter)

Each year the Board of Christian Outreach directs two special mission offerings—the Christmas and Easter offerings. These offerings are given to organizations both locally and internationally.

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



OCTOBER UPDATE

What Does “Green” Mean?



Everywhere you are hearing the terms “green” and “sustainability” bantered about. What do they mean and how do they relate to our new church that will be built at Sterling Ridge? On Saturday, October 15 (it’s an away game for the Huskers), you will have an opportunity to actually see buildings in Omaha with solar arrays, green roofs, daylighting, low waste, recycled glass and more. David Holtzclaw, a member of Countryside Church, has arranged this tour and will be guiding us as we go along.

We will be car pooling to various locations in the metro area including Morrissey Engineering, UNO Mammal Hall, and the Metro Community College North campus. We will meet at church at 9:00 a.m., assemble carpools, receive informational

materials and depart for our first stop on the tour. We should be wrapped up by 1:30 p.m. Attendees should bring their own brown bag lunch and beverage.

There will be a sign-up in the church lobby beginning Sunday, September 25 with a deadline of Sunday, October 9. There will also be a place on the sign-up sheet to indicate if you would be able to drive the day of the tour.



EXCITING NEWS!
CHALLENGE GRANT
ALL PLEDGES AND DONATIONS
MADE TO THE RELOCATION
CAMPAIGN UNTIL NOVEMBER 30
ARE NOW **DOUBLED!**

IF YOU HAVE NOT PLEDGED, PLEASE
CONSIDER MAKING A PLEDGE OR A
FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION. EVERY
DOLLAR WILL BE DOUBLED!

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

QUESTIONS?

If you have questions or comments, see one of the following committee members: Rick MacInnes, Tim Kerrigan, Cyndi Kugler, Paul Nelson, Pam Kregg and Nancy Behringer or email 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@countysideuucc.org

SOCIAL GROUP UPDATES

Wednesday Night Alive Suppers for September

Dinners run from 5:00-6:20 PM in Memorial Hall. Pre-registration is GREATLY appreciated!

Here is the list of dinners for October:

- October 5: Spaghetti, Garlic Bread, Salad & Homemade gluten-free cookies - Doug and Stephanie Dushan
- October 12: Potato Corn Chowder, Cheesy Bread, Salad and Pumpkin Pie! - Halloween Costume Swap Night with the FATE Committee
- October 19: Sloppy Joes, Salad and Fruit (Veggie and Gluten-Free options): Rebecca Morello & Margaret Gilmore
- October 26: Chili, Salad, Bread: Maria and Dave Gaebler

The suggested donation for Wednesday Night Alive Suppers is \$5/person or you may purchase by the month not to exceed \$80/family. THANKS to Christy Palmer for her organization and coordination of this family-based ministry!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Lunch Bunch Circle- Come join us for a pot luck luncheon in the Moderator's Room at noon on October 10. Our hostess, Barbara Laughlin, will introduce us to Countryside's Minister of Music, Dr. Amy Luckenbill. Bring a dish to pass and your appetite. If you have questions call Marilyn Vincent at 402-397-0679

F.a.t.E. Halloween Costume Swap during WNA supper, October 12: Celebrate Halloween in an Earth-Friendly way! Bring some of your costumes that are just waiting to be loved again and find something new to don at the Halloween Costume Swap, October 12th, from 5-6:30 PM in Memorial Hall during the Wednesday Night Alive supper. Sponsored by the Faith and the Environment Committee.

Poetry/Writing Group – All you writers and poets are invited to attend a brainstorming session dealing with the possibility of creating a writers/poetry group at Countryside. On Wednesday evening, October 19 at 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel, we will gather to explore the possibilities of putting a group together.

PLANT ONE MORE UPDATE

Plant One More season has ended. Thank you so much to all who participated! We ended up collecting 323 pounds of produce which was donated to Youth Emergency Services and Together Inc.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

THE LIST

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

Volunteer Receptionists

We are currently seeking 1-2 individuals to occupy the front office receptionist's desk on Thursdays. Hours are 8:30-11:30 AM. Duties include answering the phones and other light office work. Feel free to bring a book or surf the web during that time. For more information, contact either Dan Loven-Crum or Mary Beth Link at 402-391-0350.

Kitchen Help

Kitchen helpers are needed on Wednesday evenings, 5:30-6:30 PM and Sunday mornings. Contact Mary Beth.

Are you a true Flower Child?

If so, we are hoping you'd like to help! We are seeking one to two additional persons to assist with the purchasing and arranging of the flowers placed on the Chancel every Sunday morning. Duties include purchasing and arranging the flowers on Fridays 1-2 times/month.

Stop by the Information Station and talk to Mary Beth should you have any additional questions and then sign up to help!

The Community Cupboard Food Pantry

Volunteers are needed for the Pantry on October 1. Hours are 8 AM - 11:30 AM. Ability to lift, bend and stand on your feet for extended periods of time are appreciated. If interested contact Mary Beth Link or Andi Lawlor at communitycupboard@countysideuucc.org

THANK YOU!

Special thanks to the members of the Sanctuary Arts committee...Tom Campbell, Bob Newell, Jeanne Smay, Mary Sutton, Sandy Turner, Terri Vincent, Mary Jo Weiss, Amy Luckenbill and Rev. Chris Alexander. These gifted and creative folks are charged with and responsible for adding to our worship experience through visual arts. Remembering back to the sense of "completeness" in worship and seeing the sanctuary enhanced with special lighting, drapings, flowers, banners and other décor highlights their artistry. We thank you for the beauty in worship during Pentecost, Easter, Good Friday and currently through our Indigo Tent!

Thanks to the Board of Trustees for hosting coffee hour on Sunday mornings throughout the month of October. Be sure to chat with one of the board members to learn all the areas that this board represents.

SOCIAL GROUPS

Family Activities Committee

This group offers educational and social opportunities that strengthen family bonds and support all family members. Open to families with children, birth through 12 years old. They meet on the 4th Sunday of each month at 10 AM in the Family Life Office. Contact Mary Beth Link at marybethl@countysideucc.org.

Events that are Totally Cool (ETC)

This group encourages commitment to making church a priority through active participation in fun, faith and fellowship events. Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, 6:30 PM. Contact Mary Beth at marybethl@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.

WNA Supper Group

This group consists of volunteers in our congregation. If there is a meal you and your family really love, then share it with the church on Wednesday evenings. Contact Mary Beth at marybethl@countysideucc.org.

Women's Lunch Group

This multi-generational group, open to all women, meets at noon on the 1st Monday of each month at First Watch, 1222 S 71 St. Contact Mary Beth at marybethl@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 marybethl@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 Marilyn Vincent at darellvincent@cox.net.

FAME (Friday Art & Music Experience)

This group dabbles with watercolor paints and adult coloring books. We listen to music, laugh a lot, share stories and a pot of coffee (or two!) and enjoy being together. Contact Pam Kregg at 402-896-3866.

Men's Breakfast Group

This group of Countryside men (all ages) share their breakfast at 7 AM every Tuesday morning at Rockbrook's Garden Café. Contact Mary Beth Link at marybethl@countysideucc.org.

Countryside's Angels Bicycling

This group is open to anyone (all ages) interested in bicycling. They meet periodically when the weather is calling them to ride! Contact Mark Stursma at mstursma@yahoo.com.

EDUCATION GROUPS

Faith and the Environment (FatE)

This group promotes spirituality through environmental education, advocacy and simple acts of kindness within Countryside and beyond. They meet on the 1st Monday of the month, 5:30 PM in the Youth Room. Contact Christy Palmer at christysuepalmer@gmail.com.

LGBTQ 101

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

Adult Education

See full listing under Center for Faith Studies on page 4.

Journey Groups

See page 5.

HEALTH & WELLNESS GROUPS

T'ai Chi Chih®

TCC is a series of gentle movements that can be done by anyone. This group meets every 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.

Chair Yoga

Tuesday afternoons, September 13 - November 15 from 2-3:00 PM. Suggested donation for attending the class is \$10 per class. Contact Donna Miesbach at 402.330.2747 or at dmiesbach@cox.net

BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Church Council

Between congregational meetings, the Church Council acts upon all issues facing the Church. They establish the overall policy of the Church and work with the staff on the general direction of the activities of the Church: Meets the 3rd Thursday after the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Contact Jennifer Hamann, Moderator, at moderator@countysideucc.org.

Board of Christian Outreach (BOCO)

This board nurtures outreach projects, coordinates efforts within the church to develop mission themes, and selects organizations to receive special offering grants. Meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM. Contact board chair Sarah Miller at swaetzig14@hotmail.com

Board of Christian Education (BOCE)

This board brings strength and stability to Countryside's educational efforts by advising staff and providing both adults and children with educational programs. Meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7 PM. Contact board chair Bill Sellgren at sellgren3@cox.net

Board of Arts and Music (BAM)

This board provides sincere, artful and spiritual experiences for the congregation. Meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7:00 PM. Contact board chair Brenda Stursma at brenda.stursma@gmail.com

Board of Life Ministries (BOLM)

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

Board of Youth (BOY)

This board brings strength and stability to COYO through development, planning and management for our youth programs. Meets on the first Sunday of the month at 6:00 PM. Contact board chair Mike Murphy at mike@nelsonmurphyinvest.com

Board of Trustees

This board oversees the financial and property concerns for Countryside, including stewardship, budgeting process and regular review of the financial position of the church. This board meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM. Contact board chair Tim Kerrigan, at tgerrigan@investorsomaha.com

Board of Pastoral Care

This board promotes staff and lay ministry efforts to support, contact and comfort church and community members, focusing on people facing difficult times in their lives. This board meets quarterly at 5 PM. Contact board chair, Tom Scates at omahascats@cox.net.

Board of Deacons

This board is responsible for any church tasks that are related to worship and fellowship as well as communicating with new members and visitors. Meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7PM. Contact board chair, Bonnie Buckland at bonniebuckland@outlook.com.

Nominating Committee

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





EAARTH

WORSHIP SERIES
September 11 - October 16

See page 5 for details

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Book Fair



October 9 - 23
Between 9 AM and 11 AM services
and after 11 AM service

Shop for award-winning bibles,
books and videos for kids
through age 12

Start Christmas shopping early!
FREE SHIPPING!

SAVE up to 40%

see page 7 for details



*Religion &
Sustainability*


Learn how each of the three
Abrahamic faiths view
sustainability and the environment.
We will ponder faith's call to
sustainability and how we, as
individuals, and as a faith
community are answering that call.

October 2 - November 20
Sundays, 5:00 - 6:00 PM
Moderator's Room

see page 5 for details

**JOURNEY GROUPS
FORMING**

September 11 - October 16



EAARTH

WORSHIP SERIES

Through the story of Earth,
we will explore the main stages
of grief over the death of a loved one.
In our case, the death of Earth.

**Sign up at the
information station.**

see page 5 for details