

OUR COMMUNITY



Sunday, December 5, 2021

Community United Church of Christ—CUCC, UCC Campus Ministry—UCC-CM

PRAYER & AWARENESSES

Ongoing Prayer Concerns

- *Local Campaign-Urbana Gun Violence Victims*
- Violence against our black and brown siblings
 - Jenny De Leon
 - Angel Naira
 - Cris Blehar
- Residual trauma all black and brown people experience every time there is trauma against black and brown people in this country.
- **Jennifer Cromley** Gratitude for my brother's recovery from a mild breakthrough case of COVID
- **Jessica Smiley** Prayers of hope and healing for my family. Continued prayers of strength and peace for Kevin.
- **Kathy** Prayers for Renee and her mother who have been diagnosed with COVID, especially her mother who has been admitted to the hospital.
- **Donna and Aidan** We pray to have a dear item returned to us that was lost during our travels. It brings us comfort, and we pray for its safe return. Thank you.

CUCC BY THE NUMBERS

33 adults, **3** kids, **3** Zoom Users, **6** Facebook Users for a Total of **45** people/devices participated in worship on Sunday, **11/28**
90 hot meals were provided to our Jubilee Café guests by **11** volunteers on Monday, **11/29**
13 people met for Pub Theology, **11/29**
9 men enjoyed breakfast, conversation & laughs at Urbana Garden Restaurant for the CUCC Men's Breakfast Gathering, **12/2**
2 AA groups met in our space this week

JUBILEE CAFÉ IN NEED OF WINTER ITEMS TO SUPPORT OUR GUESTS

As winter quickly approaches Jubilee Cafe needs a few things to help our guests. If you can donate any of these items, please drop them by the church Monday – Thursday 9am – 3pm or Sunday when you come for worship (leave in church office) Items needed include new or freshly laundered winter coats, XL coats, leggings and tights, XL sweatpants that can be worn over other pants, hand warmers, warm winter hats, warm gloves, warm socks. Thank you! Email jubilee.cafe@community-ucc.org with questions.

ADVENT REFLECTIONS AND PRACTICES

Pastor Connie, Sue Osborne, and their friend Barbara England invite you to join them on their blog, Spirit on the Prairie (<https://spiritontheprairie.blogspot.com/>) during Advent for reflections on "Heart Songs," looking at the various canticles (songs) in the first few chapters of the Gospel of Luke. A new post will go up each Sunday and on Christmas featuring photography by Sue, reflections from Connie, and practices created and curated by Barbara. We hope to provide a variety of materials that speak to the topic in different ways, so that you can create your own Advent practice. That might be a quick check-in once a week or several visits over the course of the week, sampling different resources. You don't need to sign up, and there's no charge-- this is our gift of love. We do hope that you will comment and interact with others who do so that this becomes even more of a collaboration!

CUCC COOKIE EXCHANGE

Saturday, DECEMBER 11th from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. (in the church parlor)

We thought it would be fun to exchange Christmas cookies again this year since we will not be having our annual Wassail Punch/Cookie Reception after the Christmas Eve service. Bring cookies to exchange and bring cookies to share with CUCC members who live alone as well as our Jubilee Café Guests. You can bring your cookies on Thursday, December 9th to the church office from 9am-3pm or to the church parlor anytime after 1pm on December 11. Masks will be required for this event and no eating cookies will be allowed.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CUCC?

12/5, SUNDAY, CUCC Offices Closed
10:15am CUCC Hybrid Classic Worship
8:00pm—9:00pm Manhattan AA Group (Parlor)

12/6, MONDAY
2:00pm Jubilee Café Prep
5:00pm—6:30pm Jubilee Café
6:30pm—7:00pm Jubilee Café Clean-up
6:45pm—8:00pm UCC-CM Jubilee After Party (Campus Ministry Office)
7:15pm Pub Theology

12/7, TUESDAY

12/8, WEDNESDAY
12:00pm ITEMS FOR BULLETIN & WEEKLY EMAIL DUE (FOR 12/12)
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

12/9, THURSDAY
12:00pm-3:00pm UCC-CM (Campus Ministry Office Open House)
8:00pm-9:30pm Denver AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

12/10, FRIDAY, CUCC Offices Closed
5:00-11:00pm UCC-CM (Entire Building)

12/11, SATURDAY
2:00-4:00pm CUCC Cookie Exchange

12/12, SUNDAY, CUCC Offices Closed
10:15am CUCC Hybrid Classic Worship
10:15am Confirmation Class (FH)
6:30pm Longest Night Worship Service (S)
8:00pm—9:00pm Manhattan AA Group (Parlor)

12/13, MONDAY
2:00pm Jubilee Café Prep
5:00pm—6:30pm Jubilee Café
6:30pm—7:00pm Jubilee Café Clean-up
6:45pm—8:00pm UCC-CM Jubilee After Party (Campus Ministry Office)
7:15pm Pub Theology

12/14, TUESDAY
11:30AM: CUCC Retiree's Monthly Luncheon Gathering

Did you know that CUCC sends out a weekly email announcements and a monthly newsletter? If you would like to be added to the distribution list, [email: info@community-ucc.org](mailto:info@community-ucc.org) and ask to be added to the list!

UPDATE TO CUCC COVID GUIDELINES

After reviewing current guidelines, the Church Life Board approved some changes to our covid protocol. Here are the major changes:

- We are still requiring masks and social distancing. However, households who associate outside of church can sit together.
- Post-worship socializing can take place inside, with masks. We will not be serving coffee yet.

Beginning Sunday, December 5:

- Worship may include short responsive congregational prayers.
- The choir can begin singing during worship, and the congregation can sing the final hymn.

The full guidelines will be included with the December newsletter. If you have questions or concerns, please bring them to any CLB member.

CUCC RETIREE'S MONTHLY LUNCH GATHERING FOR DECEMBER

Hi friends,

We wanted to give you a heads up. At our November Retiree's lunch last week, we decided to move our December lunch up a week to the 2nd Tuesday in December, December 14th. We felt this might be better than trying to get together the week of Christmas.

We will send out another reminder note with the exact location a week prior to our lunch. We have been checking with several restaurants to find availability and good parking, so we will keep you posted on which one will work the best.

In the meantime, we wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving!

Thanks!

-Roger & Peg

LOOKING AHEAD: BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

January 9, 2022 is the day the church rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters, the rivers, the fire." *words from ELCA SundayandSeasons*

The sacrament of baptism is an outward and visible sign of the grace of God. Through baptism a person is joined with the universal church, the body of Christ. In baptism, God works in us the power of forgiveness, the renewal of the spirit, and the knowledge of the call to be God's people always. [About Baptism - United Church of Christ \(ucc.org\)](https://www.ucc.org/about-baptism)

If anyone is interested in being baptized or having someone in their family baptized by Pastor Leah Robberts-Mosser on Sunday, January 9, please contact Carla in the church office at 217-344-5091 or by email at info@community-ucc.org

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, December 11, 2:00-4:00pm: CUCC Christmas Cookie Exchange in Church Parlor

Sunday, December 12, 10:15am: Confirmation Class in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 12, 6:30pm: Longest Night Worship Service

Tuesday, December 14, 11:30am: CUCC Retiree's Monthly Luncheon Gathering

Sunday, December 19, 10:15am: All 6th-12th graders invited to participate in Sunday School in Fellowship Hall

Monday, December 20, 9:00am: Articles for January eCommuniGram due to Office Manager

Friday, December 24, 6:30pm: Christmas Eve worship