

August 2, 2018

Volume 69, Issue 16

Sunday Worship August 5, 2018

Worship at 8:30 and 10:15 a.m.

Sunday School at 10:15 a.m. for children and youth.

The Messed Up Pursuit of Happiness

We've been sold the idea that the goal of life is to be happy. And this happiness is a vision of life without problems where we are beautiful, rich, smart, with a loving family and a great job.

It's messed up.

In August, our worship services are going to challenge this version of happiness. The ancient story of our faith has wisdom – deep and counterintuitive – that may change your life.

August 5 – The Messed Up Metric

August 12 – It Could Be Worse (Educator Blessing Sunday)

August 19 – Yes and No

August 26 – What Really Matters



Teacher Appreciation

All teachers – current and retired – are invited on Sunday, August 12, for a blessing at the 10:15 service. Fun and fellowship will follow in the narthex. Please give us this opportunity to celebrate the work that you do.

Time for Our 5th Annual Toothpaste Drive

The Board of Outreach has purchased 500 child-size toothbrushes for children in the Kansas City, KS Successful Beginnings Head Start program. You can help by donating toothpaste – large-size tubes, please, for classroom use.



Brushing teeth is one of the many Standards required by Head Start.

- Non-whitening please. Pay attention to the label as some toothpaste types are for children 6 and over. They are the ones with whitening added.
- Collection will take place on August 5 and 12 at church
- Checks can be made payable to Colonial with “toothpaste” in the memo line if you would like to donate money in place of making a purchase.

We will deliver them to Head Start prior to their first day of school later in August.

Many Blessings for your thoughtfulness!
Marylee Battaglia and Board of Outreach

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Council Minutes:

Minutes of the Church Council are posted on the bulletin board across from the church office.

Crier Deadline:

Please submit items for the next Crier by **Friday, August 10** to Sally Huggins at sallyhuggins@yahoo.com.

Reflections on the Regional Youth Event

by Erin Bender

A couple of weeks ago, I attended the West Central Regional Youth Event in Grinnell, Iowa. It was my second time going to RYE, the first being in Sheboygan, Wisconsin four years ago. I had a lot of fun at my first RYE experience, but this year was a new experience. RYE 2018 was personal and had a pretty big influence on me.

RYE 2018 kicked off with a lot of discussion about the problems and injustices facing our world today. I felt connected to this topic because I have felt the insecurities and the anxiety of circumstances that I knew were affecting people just like me, but yet still distant and without names I knew personally. Be it a school shooting, a family separated by government sanctions or human loss from a natural disaster, I felt sadness. I felt anger. I felt hopelessness; but, I also felt obligation. I wanted to be an agent for change but I felt overwhelmed in knowing just what that meant.

During the beginning of the event, as each new guest speaker or youth in my community group mentioned another problem they were passionate about, I felt very small and isolated. The problems seemed so huge and abundant that I started to lose hope that there was anything I could really do to change anything now. The week went on. I experienced the power of numbers. I heard the gospel. I began to believe in the grace and courage afforded to those in small, growing groups that they could make changes through small steps that eventually led to big changes overall. We all shared a passion for change. We all wanted a better, safer, and more respectable world.

Community group leaders started asking us how we were going to take back our ideas into our own churches and communities. As all of this happened, the problems didn't seem to be quite as big when addressed by our RYE group as they were before simply as individuals. I started to realize that I had a whole church community who was ready to support me and help me make a difference. It was like I was one of those small sponges that when you put them under water they grow to their actual size. At first, I was small and overwhelmed, but once I soaked up my faith, problems started to seem smaller and more approachable. That to me, is how faith equals action.

Four youth from Colonial and Rev. Nikki and Dave Woolsey traveled to Grinnell, IA June 19-22 for the youth event.



Erin Bender, Miles Roberts, Sofie Carson and Sophia Gardner

From Justice & Witness Committee Why Voting in the Primary Matters

General election voters might award the winner, but primary voters are the ones who set up the match. That's a decision that should be made by more than just 20 percent of registered voters. In the 2016 primary election just 20.2% of registered voters in Johnson County showed up at the polls. That's 78,653 votes cast out of a possible 388,808 votes. Contrast that with the general election when the turnout was 73.5%, 299,711 out of a possible 407,550 votes. (data from the Johnson County Election Office). Those voters registered as unaffiliated CAN vote in the primary election by declaring a party on election day. They can change their registration back to unaffiliated after the election. PRIMARY VOTES MATTER. They determine who will be on the ballot in November.

The American Environmental Crisis

Learn about the current status of climate change and global mitigation strategies at a free event on The American Environmental Crisis on Monday, August 6, at 7:00 p.m. at Village Presbyterian Church. Sustainable Sanctuary Coalition of KC and the Environmental Action Committee of Village Church are co-sponsoring the event featuring Dr. Chris King, a retired U.S. Army brigadier general who was previously head of the Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering at the U.S. Military Academy. King will present an assessment on the current status of global climate change mitigation.

Sermon and Worship Planning Poll

Plans are underway to craft our sermon and worship themes for the 2018-2019 program year. Is there a particular topic you would like to explore or experience? Let us know by taking the survey at <https://colonialucc.breezechms.com/form/3d9263>

Monthly Centering Prayer

Colonial's centering prayer group meets second Sunday of the month from 9:30 till 10:00 in the preschool room downstairs. The remaining dates for 2018 are: August 12, September 9, October 14, November 11, and December 9. Centering prayer is a good way to find some quiet in your life. Praying in a group can help you.

Colonial Family

If you are going to be hospitalized, please contact Pastor Aaron Roberts or the church office.

Watch our Weekly Messages Services and Sermons

You can watch our worship services on YouTube and get the sermon and bulletin on our website (www.colonialucc.org). Our 10:15 a.m. worship service is live-streamed, so please contact the church office if you have a privacy concern.

Colonial on Social Media

Stay up to date with what's happening at Colonial through Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/colonialucc>
Instagram: [colonial_ucc](https://www.instagram.com/colonial_ucc)
Twitter: [#ColonialUCC](https://twitter.com/ColonialUCC)

Fair Trade Coffee and Chocolate Change

Sale of the Fair Trade chocolate bars and ground coffee offered for purchase by the Justice and Witness Committee has changed. Going forward, the coffee will be available only for special occasions later in the year.

Bible Study: Amos and Hosea

In our divided times, Amos' and Hosea's message is very relevant. We need to hear about God's tough love and amazing grace for a people who have often broken God's heart. Beginning August 2 at noon, you can come to Colonial Church, attend online at <https://zoom.us/j/341633262>, or dial-in to 646-558-8656 with Meeting ID 341 633 262. To receive the weekly study guide materials, contact Pastor Aaron at aaron.roberts@colonialucc.org.

Help Needed to Serve the Homeless!

It is exciting to be a part of the work that Kar Woo offers to needy area residents. Please consider whether you can bake cookies, purchase the food, cook at Colonial the day of or help serve the meal. Meals are cooked at Colonial and served by the JC Nichols Fountain on the Plaza, 4:30-6:00 p.m. Sign up to at <https://tinyurl.com/colonial-ahh18>. The next opportunity is August 26.

Board of Worship Help Needed

As we gear up for our fall worship schedule, the Board of Worship is looking for volunteers to add to the rotations for the following committees: Head ushers and usher; liturgists; children's conversation; pew supply upkeep; communion set-up. If you want more information about what is involved, or you're ready to volunteer, please email Charlotte Drayer at charlotte.drayer@gmail.com. Becoming involved with your church helps you connect with the terrific members of this congregation!

Colonial Women Activities

Breakfast and Coffee at Big Biscuit – Monday, August 6, 9:30 a.m. Big Biscuit.

Blue Moose Tuesday – Tuesday, August 14, 5:30 p.m. Blue Moose in Prairie Village Shops.

Book Group – Friday, August 31, 7:00 p.m., Stephanie Graff's home. We will discuss *Radium Girls* by Kate Moore.

Colonial Family Getaway September 8-9



Whether for one day or for the entire gathering, join other Colonial families for outdoor fun and fellowship at beautiful Pomona State Park in Vassar, Kansas. It's all happening Saturday and Sunday, September 8-9, the weekend after Labor Day.

You can come down for the activities on Saturday and return home or join us on

Sunday morning. Whatever best fits your schedule. You can camp in a tent or bring your RV. The park is just over an hour from Colonial. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/colonial-getaway> now to let us know you're coming. Questions? Contact Lisa Tierney, Elizabeth Uppman or Martha Wofford.

Colonial Staff

Senior Minister: Rev. Aaron Roberts (aaron.roberts@colonialucc.org)

Minister of Spiritual Formation: Rev. Nikki Woolsey (nikki.woolsey@colonialucc.org)

Sunday School Superintendent: Camille Breckenridge (camille.breckenridge@colonialucc.org)

Music Director: Kirk Carson (kirk.carson@yahoo.com)

Bell Choir Director: Hayden Ferguson

Organist: Dr. Joseph Kern

Church Administrator: Heather Winker (heather.winker@colonialucc.org)

Communications Manager: Sally Huggins (sallyhuggins@yahoo.com)

Building Maintenance: Edson Palacios-Castrejon (edson.palacios-castrejon@colonialucc.org)



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in Prairie Village

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UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Coming Up at Colonial

Thursday, August 2

12:00 pm Bible Study
3:00 pm Justice & Witness Committee, Library
6:30 AA, Oberlin Room

Friday, August 3

8:30 am Quiltmakers, Social Hall

Sunday, August 5

8:30 am Worship
9:15 That Was the Week That Was, Library
9:15 Board of Outreach, Oberlin Room
9:15 Youth Sunday School, Youth Room
10:15 Worship
10:30 Sunday School
11:15 Fellowship, Heritage Room

Monday, August 6

9:30 am Colonial Women Coffee, Big Biscuit

Tuesday, August 7

8:00 am Men's Breakfast Group, Perkins
9:30 am Book Group, Heritage Room

Wednesday, August 8

9:30 am Visit with Pastor Aaron, Einstein Brothers, Prairie Village Shops

Thursday, August 9

12:00 pm Bible Study
6:30 AA, Oberlin Room

Sunday, August 12

8:30 am Worship
9:15 That Was the Week That Was, Library
9:15 Youth Sunday School, Youth Room
9:15 Adult Christian Education, Cambridge Room
9:30 Centering Prayer, Preschool Room
10:15 Worship
10:30 Sunday School
11:15 Fellowship, Heritage Room

For the full church calendar, visit our website at colonialucc.org

Happy Birthday!

Jerry Uppman, Bekki Walsh, Jeannie Irons, Walt Seibert, Dorothy Mulford, Missy Flachsbarth, Lori Jackson, Tim Owens, Marcia Dodson

Happy Anniversary!

Chas & Nadine Colbert
Aaron & Carrie Roberts
Bob & Dianne Starcke