

If you have **social media skills** and would like to share them to promote our church, we'd love to have your talents. Instagram, TikTok, X, Meta? Maybe you can share our activities for us!

We are also looking for a **back-up person to help send out the Eblast**.  
If you are interested, please see Mary Bellinger

A sign-up sheet has been posted in the kitchen for those who wish to **volunteer to bring in treats for Sunday morning coffee time** following worship. **NOTE:** If you would like to bring in a cake on special occasions, please indicate the date of your choice on the sign-up sheet and speak with someone in the kitchen.

### OUTREACH

**Food sort and deliveries Thursday mornings at 11 a.m.** We will need all of our helpers and will gladly welcome anyone new.

**If you can help with food deliveries every other Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m.,** please let Kevin Graham know.

**We need MEAT/food donations, monetary donations, RESUSABLE SHOPPING BAGS, and DRIVERS!** We will take any of the above. The best time to donate food is Thursdays at 11 a.m., or on Sunday mornings. **No egg cartons** for the time being.

**\*SPECIAL NOTE:** From time to time, we receive bulk items that need to be repackaged into smaller quantities. Examples: flour, rice, sugar and coffee. We are looking for anyone interested in assisting with this. This can be done at home at your leisure. If you are wishing to help in any way with the food bank, please call 289-385-1462 and speak with one of our volunteers.

Entrance to the church via the back parking lot doors **will be locked at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings**. If you arrive late, please enter the church via the front doors.

**A reminder to please arrive at church “scent free”.**

## COLUMBUS COMMUNITY UNITED CHURCH

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April 26, 2026

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The Reverend Charles J. Arasaratnam Bth	Minister
Anthony Alexander B Mus.	Music Facilitator
Mary Bellinger	Song Leader

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\*indicates those who are able to please stand

### WE GATHER TOGETHER

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

- L:** Easter people, we gather to worship and to listen, to learn the sound, the feel, the rhythm of the Shepherd's voice.
- P:** **We come seeking our Shepherd's voice.**
- L:** We gather to worship and to discern, to learn how to recognize our Shepherd's voice amidst the chaos and noise of our lives.
- P:** **We come seeking our Shepherd's voice.**
- L:** We gather to worship and to find shelter, to learn to trust our Shepherd's voice to guide us to safety and provide for us in all things.
- P:** **We come seeking our Shepherd's voice.**
- L:** Come, let us worship as we listen for the voice of Jesus who guides us, protects us, provides for us, and draws us together in community.
- P:** **We come to worship as the family of Christ, a flock seeking and following our Shepherd's voice. Amen.**

\*HYMN *Now Thank We All Our God*

236

\*PRAYER OF APPROACH (unison)

**God, who is like a good shepherd, we are your people. You count each one of us as your own. You call us brothers and sisters of Christ. You know us by name and by nature. Shepherding God, we worship you. God, who is like a good shepherd, we are your people. In Christ you have gone ahead that we might follow. In Christ you**

have opened springs of living water that we might be refreshed. In Christ you have conquered death that we might live without fear. Shepherding God, we worship you. God, who is like a good shepherd, we are your people. We know your voice, the voice that draws us closer, the voice that sends us out, the voice that injustice cannot silence, the voice that sets the prisoner free. Shepherding God, we worship you. Amen.

ANTHEM *The Wonder of It All* by George Beverly Shea

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God, who is like a good shepherd, we are your people, and we have wandered far from your presence. We have turned our ears from your voice and listened to other voices: the voice of greed, the voice of selfishness, the voices of arrogance and pride, the voices of war and destruction, the voices of lie and fake news. You have offered us abundance of life, but we have settled for so much less. Forgive us.

SILENT PRAYER      ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE READ GOD'S WORD TOGETHER

SCRIPTURE      1 Peter 2:19-25

SCRIPTURE      John 10:1-10

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD PREACHED

MESSAGE      THE SHEPHERD AND THE SHEEP

WE RESPOND IN LOVE

\*HYMN      *The Lord's My Shepherd*      747

WE GIVE OUR OFFERING TO GOD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING      537  
\*DOXOLOGY

Your work, O God, needs many hands  
to help you everywhere,  
and some there are who cannot serve  
unless our gifts we share.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

As we offer these gifts to you, Shepherd of our souls, we thank you for the love flowing through our lives and through these gifts. May they be filled with your awesome power, that through these gifts, many signs and wonders will be done. May no one be in need, and may your community of love be established upon this earth. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

\*HYMN      *In Loving Partnership We Come*      603

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

CHORAL BLESSING      *Go Now In Peace*

POSTLUDE

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*If you are visiting with us for the first time this morning, welcome! It is no longer our custom to pass around the offering plate. The plate is kept at the front of the church, just inside the door, and offering envelopes are available in the pews. All donations are greatly appreciated and help to keep the heart of this sacred place beating with God's love, grace, and generosity.*

Happy Birthday to **Laura Ann Martin**, who celebrates this Thursday, and **Al Graham**, who celebrates on Friday ☺

**Bible Study** – Please see Kevin Graham for Monday evening Bible Study details.

**Men's Breakfast** – The men meet for breakfast every third Saturday of each month. Their next gathering is scheduled for **May 16 at 9:00 a.m., and the women are invited to attend.**

The Prayer Shawl Committee would greatly appreciate **yarn donations.**

**Christian Library** – There is now a collection of Christian books in the cabinet in the Narthex. Feel free to browse, borrow, take and share them at your leisure. If you would like to add to the collection, please ensure the books are Christian.

**We greatly appreciate helping bodies on Sunday mornings to:**  
Operate the chairlift.  
Occasionally help set up coffee at 9:15 a.m.  
Occasionally help with the sound and camera equipment.