



CHRISTIAN

Strength for the Journey. Grace for the Soul.

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*We joyfully
welcome
and nurture
all people
by providing
a vibrant
Christ-centered
community
of faith,
dedicated to
spiritual growth
through
worship, study
and service.*

Capital Campaign Update

By Greg Lear

How are we doing on the Capital Campaign? This is a question I am often asked as Chair of the Campaign. My answer is we are doing well, but there is more we need to do.

We are doing well in that we have received a very generous response from the congregation since we learned that the cost of the exterior repairs was going to be about \$1.6 million more than we thought. We have raised an additional \$1.25 million in campaign pledges and gifts in just the last four months. This includes one gift of \$250,000 and four gifts of \$100,000.

We need to do more in that we are still about \$1.7 million short of our Campaign goal of \$4.9 million.

The Congregational Board has arranged for interim financing with Metcalf Bank, but we would like to fully underwrite the campaign so that we minimize any borrowing costs we might incur. If you have not completed an updated Capital Campaign pledge, or did not make a pledge or gift to the original campaign, will you consider doing so now? Your church needs you. You can contact Rachel at 816-333-4917 to make a pledge or gift or you may give online by visiting cccckc.org and clicking on the "Give" tab.

Welcome Michael Patch

It is with great pleasure and excitement that we welcome Michael Patch to our music staff. Michael began his ministry with us on Feb. 24 as our new Director of Children's and Youth Music. Michael holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree from UMKC, where he was certified to teach music in grades K-12. He also holds a Master of Music degree in choral conducting from San Francisco State University. He will begin a doctoral degree program in choral conducting at UMKC in August of this year.



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Nominating Process Underway
The nominating process to fill elected positions for the 2013-2014 church year is underway. We need your help identifying a broad and diverse representation of leaders from our congregation. We need members who are energetic, dedicated, and motivated to serve in leadership and service positions. Please see page 4 for details.



Patch, *continued from page 1*

Michael comes to us with over ten years of experience in the field of church music. While in San Francisco, he was on the music staff of First Christian Church. While in California, he also was the artistic director and conductor of the Oakland East Bay Gay Men's Chorus. In addition to his many musical gifts, Michael is currently working with the KC Lyric Opera in the area of Guest Relations.

Michael had his first rehearsals with his choirs on Feb. 24 and is preparing them to sing on Easter Sunday.

When you see Michael around the church, please welcome him.

Annual Celebration Dinner and Auction Will Be May 4

Mark your calendar for the 2013 Celebration Dinner and Auction on Sat., May 4, at the The Museums at 18th and Vine. The festive evening begins at 6:30 p.m. and includes a buffet dinner and silent and live auctions.

Auction Items Sought

Participate by donating an item for either of the auctions. The auction committee is seeking items such as jewelry, trips, event/sporting tickets, personal service and more for both the silent and live auctions. If you have an item you'd like to donate, contact Nancy Lear at nancylear@gmail.com.

You can help ensure this year's event is a success by becoming a benefactor at one of six levels, starting at \$250. Visit www.cccckc.org/stay-informed for more information about the benefactor levels. And watch for more information on ticket sales beginning later this spring.

This annual event has become not only an important source of funds for the church's operating budget, it has more importantly cultivated friendships that extend across generational lines and nurtured a sense of stewardship within our community.

Nicaragua Mission Trip Blog

A mission team left Feb. 23 to conduct medical clinics and work on construction projects among the poorest of the poor in rural Nicaragua. They will return Mar. 3 You can read about the team's journey by checking out the mission trip blog at www.cccckc.org/stay-informed.



2013 Mission Team

Support the Youth Nicaragua Mission Trip

On Sunday the youth will be selling "shares" for the youth mission trip to Nicaragua. Each level of donation allows a person to have a different level of benefit for being a shareholder in the trip.

Level 1: \$50... This entitles the shareholder to come to a stake-holder meeting and dinner when the youth return as well as have the donor's name on a special thank you section of the post-trip bulletin board.

Level 2: \$100... This entitles the shareholder to come to a stake-holder meeting and dinner when the youth return as well as have the donor's name on a special thank you section of the post-trip bulletin board. Donors also will receive a postcard from a team member while in Nicaragua.

Level 3: \$200... This entitles the shareholder to come to a stake-holder meeting and dinner when the youth return as well as the donor's name on a special thank you section of the post-trip bulletin board. Donors also will receive a postcard from a team member while in Nicaragua, and a small gift from Nicaragua.

Stop by the Parlor this Sunday to show your support at one of these levels.



To Wound the Heart

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



The Argentinian Poet Antonio Porchia has written, “To wound the heart is to create it.”

That is a truth that is difficult to embrace. We try to protect our hearts. We guard them. We don’t want to have them wounded in any way.

No one knows how to hurt each better than family members. Your knowledge of your family is much greater than your knowledge of anyone else. You know each other’s weaknesses. You know each other’s pain. You share

the same story, the same memories. The closer you are to someone the more vulnerable you are to experiencing pain.

To fall in love is to leave your heart open for breaking. To give yourself to another is to make yourself vulnerable to rejection, to the deepest and greatest pain there is.

In the film *Moonstruck*, there is a baker who serves as the holy man of the movie. With great wisdom in one scene he declares, “Love don’t make things nice, it ruins everything, it breaks your heart, it makes a mess.”

Do you have a heart? Have you ever been in love? If you have answered “yes” to either of those questions than you know that love can make a mess and it can mess up our nice, neat and orderly lives in, well, in a heartbeat. Leonard Sweet reminds us: “The only hearts that never break are those that beat behind closed doors.”

Maybe the greatest thing Jesus did for us, for the world, for everyone, was open his heart. When Jesus goes to the cross on Good Friday, he will die, not from the wounds in his hands and feet, not from the spear that is thrust into his side. He will die from a broken heart. His wounded and broken heart made room for love to fully make its way into the world, to once and for all time proclaim that death is not the end.

To wound the heart is to create it. Is your heart breaking? Is it already broken? Well, good. Maybe now there is room for love to make its way in.

Grace and peace to you,

Save the Date for Grace at Work

Do you have the passion to volunteer, but don’t know where to start? Do we have an opportunity for you! Join us at the annual Grace at Work event on Sat., Apr. 13, a fun-filled half-day volunteer event open to all ages and abilities. Grace at Work supports our church and area organizations through our participation in various hands-on projects. Many different volunteer opportunities are available. Through your participation you will have the opportunity to experience fellowship, while assisting others in need and creating visible change in our community.

Worship with us!

Services at 9:00, 10:00 and 11:00 a.m.

**Sermon Series:
Living A Generous Life**

Mar. 3

The Practice of Intentional Faith
Development
Hebrews 10:22-25

Mar. 10

The Practice of Risk-Taking Mission
and Service
Matthew 16:24-26
Rev. Carla Aday preaching

Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

Pathways to Learning in March



Spirituality: Creative and Sustaining

Dr. Molly Marshall, President of Central Baptist Seminary.

Mar. 3 — The Spirit Constructs Incarnation

Mar. 10 — The Spirit Sustains through Death

Sundays, 9:55-10:55 a.m., Social Hall

2013 Mission Trip to Joplin

Country Club Christian Church will be sending a mission team to Joplin, MO, again next year. Mark your calendars for May 5-11, 2013. To sign up or for more information, contact Betsy Wilson at betcwilsonkc@yahoo.com. The team will continue to help with the recovery following the 2011 tornado.

2013 General Assembly – Teach Us to Pray

The theme of the 2013 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) “Lord Teach Us to Pray” calls us to pray deeply for God’s direction, strength, courage, and initiative in mission. It offers the opportunity for praying communities of Disciples to connect with each other as the family of God.



The theme is based on Luke 11: 1-4.

In the gospel of Luke, the original disciples cry out, “Lord, teach us to pray.” They’ve already been busy preaching and prophesying and healing in Jesus’ name. Their desire for prayer this far into their ministry reminds us that our motivation for action comes from our vital relationship with the living Christ. Our energy for mission comes from the Spirit of God. We are fueled for our mission by a life of communicating with God through prayer.

The General Assembly will be July 13-17 in Orlando, FL. Information and registration materials are available at www.disciples.org/ga. Save by registering before April 1.

Dr. Glen Miles will preach on Saturday evening, July 13.

Nominating Process Underway

The nominating process to fill elected positions for the 2013-2014 church year is underway. We need your help identifying a broad and diverse representation of leaders from our congregation. We need members who are energetic, dedicated, and motivated to serve in leadership and service positions. If you know of someone who fits that description, then please take the time to fill out a nomination form.

The Nominating Committee is soliciting names for the following positions:

- ◆ Congregational Board
 - Chairperson-Elect
 - Treasurer
 - Board Members
 - Secretary
- ◆ Personnel Committee
- ◆ Endowment Trustees
- ◆ Elders
- ◆ Deacons
- ◆ Youth Elders
- ◆ Youth Deacons

Nomination forms and qualifications are available in the parlor on Sundays in March and are already available on our website under “Stay Informed.” Individuals currently serving in leadership positions are listed for reference. Nominate those people (including yourself) who you feel would serve our church well. The deadline for nominations is Sun., Mar. 24.

If you have questions regarding the nomination process, please contact Jane Fletcher at 816-333-4917 or janef@cccckc.org. Thank you for your participation in this important process.

Jared Rose, Chair of Nominating Committee



Hope and Renewal

by Chuck Murphy, Minister of Congregational Care



Driving in earlier this week, I was in awe of the beauty of the freshly fallen snow. The snow reflecting the sunlight created a glow on roofs, almost blinding. Trees with branches swaying covered with snow as far as the eye could see. And, every once in awhile, I could spot a brightly colored bird; its colors looked more brilliant against the snowy background.

Yes, I know, the snow has caused many problems. Traffic jams and stranded motorists, closed schools and businesses, loss of electricity, people not able to get out of their homes, sore backs from shoveling for those who can.

Yet, on the flip side, there is something renewing, like the freshness of the new-fallen snow. Trees with broken branches are being pruned, with older parts being removed allowing for new growth. Closed schools and businesses mean families were able to spend another day together. People came together in neighborhoods to help one another dig out.

I heard a farmer say during the intensity of last year's drought that he eventually gave up hope, for everything around him reminded him of his scorched and parched crops. This snow fall will eventually melt, bringing much needed moisture to vegetation that surrounds us. The scorched and parched will receive a drink; vegetation will be renewed.

In the masterful movie *The Shawshank Redemption*, lead character Andy Dufresne says to his best friend, Red, who has lost his hope, "Remember, hope is a good thing, maybe the best of things, and no good thing ever dies." If we truly believe in God, who has endless possibilities for every moment in time, then possibilities do exist for hope to be found in every moment. There is evidence all around us of God's loving presence. Hope does exist, even in the depths of freshly fallen snow.

Blessings filled with peace,

Chuck

Memorial Easter Lily Sale

Honor a loved one by purchasing a memorial Easter lily. The lilies will be displayed in the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, Mar. 31 and may be taken home after the 11:00 a.m. service. Prices are \$9.25 for single stem plants (four to five blooms) and \$20 for double stems (seven to 10 blooms). The deadline for ordering lilies is Mar. 3. Pick up an order form in the main office beginning Sun., Feb. 17. Please return the completed form, with payment, to Mary Margaret House by Mar. 3. Your payment is the confirmation of your order. If you have questions, contact Mary Margaret House, marymargareth@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917.

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday Worship – March 24

Families are invited to join the Palm Parade at the 11:00 a.m. service, and we will celebrate the baptisms of our Pastors' Class participants.

Maundy Thursday – March 28

7:00 p.m., Sanctuary – In remembrance of Jesus' last supper, we gather to sing hymns, read scripture and celebrate communion.

Good Friday – March 29, 12:15 p.m.

Experience the darkest day on the Christian calendar with worship, readings, hymns and solos. A 15-minute organ prelude begins at noon with worship following at 12:15 p.m.

Easter Sunday – March 31

Special Service Times

8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Celebrate the miracle of Easter at Country Club Christian Church. Dr. R. Glen Miles preaching.

Upcoming Youth Events

CYF and Chi Rho Sunday Nights

5:30-7:30 p.m.

All 6th-12th graders are invited to join us on Sunday evenings. Each Sunday of the month focuses on a different path designed to help youth transform lives and relationships through spiritual growth, express God's love in tangible ways, and experience the life changing love of God through fellowship and worship. During months when there are five Sundays, we'll use that evening for planning and feedback.

Mar. 3 – CYF and Chi Rho. Come and play games and paint tiles that will be sold to help support AIDS research and care in Kansas City. Come with your imagination and your readiness to get messy with some paint!

Mar. 10 – God has a sense of humor. Come to a GAME NIGHT! A night full of games that will keep us laughing, as well as some time to worship and just be silly.

Mar. 17 – Happy Spring Break! No youth group.

Mar. 24 – All Youth Mystery Trip. Bring \$10 and a willingness to be surprised.

Mar. 31 – Happy Easter. Spend time with your family.

Chi Rho Mission Trip

This summer the 6th-8th graders will go to Indianapolis, IN, July 8-12 to work on justice projects including working with people who experience poverty and people who are striving to escape violence. This is a great opportunity to learn how to serve in a very direct way as well as be in a new city and have some fun! Contact Justin Zeigler, justinz@cccckc.org.

CYF Mission Trip

CYF will travel to Chicago July 21-27 to continue working in the city with local organizations to address issues of homelessness, poverty and racial injustices. Contact Justin Zeigler, justinz@cccckc.org.

Greece Beckons

Grab your passport and pack your bags to go with fellow church members and friends on the trip of a lifetime this October! Join Glen and Julie Miles and Scott Fuller and Lauren Weinhold as they tour Greece in the footsteps of Paul.



The trip will begin and conclude in Athens.

Marvel at the ancient architecture of the Olympic Stadium, the Temple of Zeus, Hadrian's Arch and the Acropolis. We will continue the tour with stops in Delphi, Kalambaka, Meteora and Thessaloniki. To top it all off, we will enjoy a three-night cruise on the beautiful Aegean Sea with stops in Ephesus, Patmos, Heraklion, Crete and Santorini.

The tour is \$3,699 per person and includes airfare from Kansas City, accommodations at first-class hotels, most meals, comprehensive sight-seeing and top-notch guides. Travel arrangements are through NAWAS International, a tour company with over 63 years of travel experience.

For more information or to request an information packet, contact Glen Miles at glenm@cccckc.org or Lauren Weinhold at laurenw@cccckc.org. Completed reservation forms and a deposit of \$400 is due by Mar. 15. Opa!



As Near as the Beach

by Catherine Stark-Corn, Minister to Children, Youth and Families



“Can you hear me? Can you see?” questions I recently posed to my sister as I stood in the middle of my street, snow to my shins, turning my phone for a panoramic view of our block covered in snow. There was not a car in sight, a kind of quiet that only comes when the world is layered in sound-muffling snow. We were Facetiming (is that a verb now?). Basically, a video phone call, which happened only on the *Jetsons* TV show when I was a kid, and which I thought would never be real in my life time.

My sister offered audio and video of her location. Standing on the beach in San Diego, showing me the crashing waves and making sure I heard the seagulls. It was truly amazing to be virtually stepping into each other’s lives for that moment. We teased one another about who had the better situation – she envying the snow days – me jealous of the sun and sand she was surrounded by on her walk. After disconnecting from our Facetime exchange, I felt deeply refreshed from our encounter. Perhaps it would have been the same via an email exchange or just a regular phone call, but I am convinced I was more attentive to our conversation because I could see her and truly picture where she was at that moment.

I often wonder if I would be more faithful in my relationship with God – making time for prayer, for reflection – if I could see God face to face. I seem to make more time for things physically present – the closet that is closed gets little of my attention but the stack of mail on the counter when I enter the kitchen gets my immediate focus. Yet I remind myself, often it is in the way we choose to see that makes the difference. For we may not see God face to face but God is ever visible to us all if only we focus on the sacred in this world, in relationships, in creation, in each encounter with others. With eyes seeking God, the Holy One becomes vividly visible.

During this season of Lent may we all see God in new ways, may we all seek to deepen our relationship with the Creator, and may we refocus ourselves in ways that refresh our faith.

I believe God can be seen. It’s just a matter of looking with your heart and you will see the Holy One visible in shared laughter on a beach and a pile of snow.

Catherine

Children and Families

First Steps to Faithfulness

Sun., Mar. 3

Families with children age 3 and under are invited to join with other families for informal conversation. Come to the Play Zone (Rm. 215) with your infant or toddler for play time for the little ones and connecting for the adults.

Club Kids (3rd-5th Grade)

Mar. 3 and 10 — Regular session, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Social Hall.

Mar. 17— No meeting.

Annual Overnight at the Omaha Zoo

April 6-7, 2013

3rd – 5th graders are invited to join us for our overnight at the Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha. An email was sent to 3rd – 5th grade families Mar. 1. Please contact Catherine if you do not receive the information.

Fountains of Faith Sunday School Garden of Gethsemane

Our next Sunday School rotation takes us through the season of Lent. We will look at various stories of Jesus leading to Holy Week. From creating Holy Week in silhouette scenes to learning more about the Last Supper through the Zappia sculpture the children will learn about Jesus path to Easter.

Palm Sunday Parade

Sun., Mar. 24

Worship & Wonder classes and children in 1st – 5th grades will meet for a combined session for Palm Sunday. We will learn about the events of Holy Week and will prepare for a palm parade at the opening of the 11:00 a.m. worship service. We hope all can attend to celebrate this special time in the life of the church.

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Return Service Requested

PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. R. Glen Miles Senior Minister	Ms. Karla Herrington Director of Children's Ministries
Rev. Carla Aday Senior Associate Minister	Dr. Brian Mathias Associate Organist
Rev. David Diebold Minister of Music	Ms. Lisa McCleish Director of Early Childhood Programs
Rev. Catherine Stark- Corn Minister to Children, Youth and Families	Mr. Michael Patch, Director of Children's and Youth Choirs
Rev. Chuck Murphy Minister of Congrega- tional Care	Ms. Lara Schopp Director of Communica- tions
Mr. Justin Zeigler Minister to Youth	Ms. Lauren Weinhold Director of Church Growth

The Country Club Christian: Copy must reach this office by Monday ten days prior to publication. Editor: Lara Schopp, laras@cccckc.org

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Virginia Reed Food Drive on March 17

On Sun., Mar. 17, please bring your nonperishable food items for our collection for local food pantries that serve the homeless and hungry. Vans will be in the parking lot to receive your food or it can be placed in the baskets located at the east and north doors. We also purchase food in case lots for the pantries, so cash donations are welcome. Please mark your donation "Food Drive."

Our Church Family

Sympathy

JAY BUEHLER passed away Feb. 18. He is survived by his wife, Mary, and son, Marc. Services were Feb. 22, Dr. Glen Miles and Rev. Chuck Murphy officiating.

DOTTIE BRADSHAW passed away Feb. 19. Services were Feb. 22 at McGilley Funeral Home, Dr. Glen Miles and Mr. Justin Zeigler officiating.

VIRGINIA REED passed away Feb. 25. She is survived by a daughter, Ann Reed. A memorial service is planned for a later date.

DAN WEARY passed away Feb. 23. He is survived by his wife, Barbara. The service is Mar. 1 at 2:00 p.m. in Combs Chapel, Rev. Chuck Murphy officiating.

CARL W. CLARK JR. passed away Feb. 20. He is survived by sons, Paul Clark of Lexington, KY, and Randy Clark of Clifton, NJ. Service is Mar. 1 in Naples, FL.

Memorials

Music Fund

John Turley

Virginia Reed

Music Fund

Marilyn Koons

John & Erma Hess

Greg & Nancy Lear

Joyce Minor

June Turley

Peggy Brinkman