

INSIDE

At Home with God  
By Glen Miles  
≈≈≈  
page 3

Keep It Simple,  
Make It Meaningful  
by Lisa McCleish  
≈≈≈  
page 5

Though the Mountains  
Will Crumble  
by Monica Lewis  
≈≈≈  
page 7

*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.*

Grace at Work Crews Span the City on Oct. 8

On Sat., Oct. 8, 90 members and friends of Country Club Christian Church participated in Grace At Work. Volunteers packed lunches and sorted food for Harvesters Community Food Network, worked on a garden at Jerusalem Farm, sorted clothes at Micah Ministries, and other projects.

Ben and Katie Carrier served as chairpersons for the effort. “What delighted us the most,” Ben said, “was the passion that our fellow church members showed for our organizational partners. As Katie and I traveled between locations on Saturday, we were shown the incredible things going on at each of our partners and how our volunteers played a part – not just for the day, but also on an ongoing basis. It was clear to us that our members have many special relationships and do meaningful work in our community.”



Above, gardening at Jerusalem Farm in the northeast.

Below, packing food boxes at Harvesters Community Food Network.



Below, sorting clothing donations at Micah Ministries



Above, landscaping at Hartman Elementary School.

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# Pathways to Learning: Politics and Elections

Pathways to Learning is a series of elective offerings open to everyone, focusing on timely topics on the Bible, spirituality, current events, family life and technology. Ideal for those who aren't involved in a Sunday School class; entire Sunday School classes also encouraged to participate as a group. Visitors and guests welcome. 10:00 a.m. Social Hall.

**Politics and Elections** - In this timely two-part series, we take a look at media, faith and politics.

**Oct. 23 – ... from the Media's Perspective**, with speaker David Von Drehle, editor at *Time* magazine writing about presidential politics, the Supreme Court and international terrorism among others. He has worked for *The Washington Post*, *The Miami Herald* and *The Denver Post* and is the author of numerous journalistic articles as well as three books, including the *The New York Times*'s bestseller *The Fire That Changed America*, about the famous Triangle shirt-



waist factory fire.

**Oct. 30 – ... from a Christian Perspective**, with speaker



Rev. Brian Ellison, ordained in the Presbyterian Church (USA), and executive director of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians. He is also a frequent contributor to KCUR, Kansas City's NPR station.

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## Upcoming TED Talk Discussions

Discuss the intersection of social issues, ideas and our shared faith in a new series utilizing TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design) Talks from the immensely popular TED live events, videos and podcasts. Participants will watch the talks together during the session and then participate in a discussion. Open to all ages. Facilitated by Craig Doty. First Sunday of November and December, 10:00-10:50 a.m., Youth Center (Rm. 205).

Topics:

- Nov. 6 – The Global Food Waste Scandal, Tristram Stuart
- Dec. 4 – My Year of Biblical Living, AJ Jacobs

## Annual Thanksgiving Dinner



Rev. Bob Hill will be the speaker at our annual Thanksgiving Dinner celebration on Thur., Nov. 17. Rev. Hill was senior minister of Community Christian

Church in Kansas City for 30 years before retiring in 2015. We will gather at 6:30 p.m. in the Social Hall. for a traditional dinner of turkey, dressing and all the trimmings. Purchase tickets in the parlor on Oct. 30, Nov. 6 and 13.

## Save the Date! 2017 Dinner and Auction

Mark your calendar for the 8th Annual Celebration Dinner and Auction, Fri., Apr. 7, 2017.



The planning committee did a site visit to the event venue, the College Basketball Experience (1401 Grand Boulevard, Kansas City, MO 64106).

## Collection Connection: Toothbrushes

Think about having one toothbrush, ever. For your whole life. Just one. Often this is the case for people in Nicaragua. For the last 11 years, our church has sent a mission team to Nicaragua to serve in areas of health care and community development. This month's Collection Connection supports our ongoing mission partnership. Donations of toothbrushes are needed, to be included in home health kits. Place donations in the basket in the parlor. Monetary donations are also needed to fund our medical clinic.



# At Home with God

By Dr. R. Glen Miles



The Bible teaches that spiritual growth, change and new life are possible. However, this change is rarely quick or easy.

I am certain this desire for change comes from a deep yearning within to go home, to feel safe, to be known. The main character in Pat Conroy’s novel, *Beach Music* says, “I could not quiet that pearly ache in my heart that I diagnosed as the cry of home.”

We want a life that matters. We want to know God and be known by God. Finally, we want to know that we can be at home with God.

I remember one year at summer church camp there was a 16-year-old boy who was the camp clown. His name was Bobby. He made fun of everything and, to my great frustration, everyone. He could make the 100 kids in camp laugh their heads off and he could also viciously cut anyone down to size. He was loved and feared. He walked out of our evening campfire a couple of times. I asked him about walking out. “It’s too corny at campfire; all that crying and stuff. Too preachy too.”

At the closing campfire he got up in front of the group. We had talked that day about becoming the person God created us to be; to risk being a Christian, a person who loved God and loved neighbor, period. At campfire he said, with tears streaming down his face, “I’ve never been more at home than I am here. I am sorry for being mean. I was afraid at the beginning of the camp that no one would like me so I was just mean. But this week I’ve been challenged to grow up, to be kind. For the first time that I can remember, I feel like I’ve finally found a home.”

What Bobby did was a risky thing. He took a chance to begin to change his behavior and to confess his desire to do so in front of his peers. Risk is a common element in the spiritual life.

John the Baptist, preparing the people for Jesus, preached, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” That word repent has a ton of baggage attached to it but at its core it simply means turn around.

The beginning of spiritual growth and transformational change often starts with a simple choice to turn around, to begin again, to thus far and no further. Go ahead and give it a try. I have it on good authority: God allows U-turns.

Grace and peace to you,

## Upcoming Guest Lunch

We invite all guests and friends of the congregation to attend this luncheon from 12:15-1:30 p.m. on Sun., Nov. 6 to learn more about the church, meet the ministers and ask questions about the denomination and church. Lunch will be served in the Youth Center (Rm. 205). For more information or to RSVP, contact Barbara George [barbarag@cccckc.org](mailto:barbarag@cccckc.org).

## New Member Sunday

Are you interested in joining the Country Club Christian Church family? The next New Member Sunday is Nov. 13. Contact Barbara George at [barbarag@cccckc.org](mailto:barbarag@cccckc.org) for more information.

## Worship with us!

**Service Times: 9:00, 10:00 and 11:00 a.m.**

**Sermon Series: Deep Courage**

**Oct. 23**

Part 6: Peter  
*Acts 10: 34-43*

**Oct. 30**

Irresistible Grace  
*Luke 19: 1-10*

Rev. Carla Aday preaching

**Nov. 6**

Is This the End of the World?  
*2 Thessalonians 2:1-4; 13-17*

**Nov. 13**

‘Twas Grace that Taught  
My Heart to Fear  
*Isaiah 12*

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# Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

## Photographer with Photos of Our Church to be at The Well on November 6

Dennis Hedberg, a native of Kansas City who has taken beautiful photographs of our renovated campus, will be on hand at The Well on Sun., Nov. 6, from 9:45 a.m.-



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12:15 p.m. along with these prints for purchase. You will have the opportunity to purchase one of the copyrighted photos in several sizes and have it signed by Dennis. Proceeds from your purchase will benefit Week of Compassion.

Dennis was asked to photograph our church after the renovation. Many of those photographs have been used to promote our church. Canvas prints and Christmas Cards from those shots are also for sale in The Well.



His hobbies include traveling and restoring old cars, both of which give him plenty of subject matter for his first pas-



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sion, photography. Dennis has traveled throughout the world, including South Africa, Australia, Asia, Europe, and North America. South America and Antarctica are still on his bucket list.

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## Young Men's Bible Study

Led by Glen Miles, the study begins Wed., Nov. 2, 6:30 p.m. in the church library. Study of the Gospel According to Matthew.

## Faithbook: Women Exploring Scripture and Forming Friendships

FaithBook is a place for women to connect and reconnect, a place to share stories, a place to challenge one another to grow in faith. All are welcome. Meet amazing women forming friendships and sharing scripture. Come and go as your schedule permits on either Tuesday nights from 7:00-8:00 p.m. or Wednesday mornings from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Youth Center. Carla Aday presents a scripture and small groups discuss.

### Religion and Politics – Oct. 25/26

We know, we know, too much about politics already. But let's take a peek at what the scriptures say about the connection between our public life and our life of faithfulness. Maybe there is hope?

### What We Talk About When We Talk About God – Nov. 1/2, 8/9, 15/16

Inspired by Rob Bell's recent book with the same title. How are we modern Christians to ponder the reality of God in a modern scientific age?

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## Purchases through AmazonSmile Benefit Week of Compassion through The Well

Every time you shop through AmazonSmile, your purchases can benefit Week of Compassion through The Well. When you shop at smile.



amazon.com, you'll find the same prices and selection as amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to The Well for Week of Compassion.

To shop at AmazonSmile go to smile.amazon.com using your regular account from Amazon.com. Your shopping cart and other account settings are the same. You need to select Country Club Christian Church as your charitable organization to receive donations before you begin shopping. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.



## Keep It Simple, Make It Meaningful

By Lisa McCleish, Director of Early Childhood Programs



The donation of a wardrobe moving box created a lot of excitement in the 2-year-old room. Yet with this ordinary box, the children have learned about teamwork and cooperation, size and dimension, physics and creating through imagination.

The first, and most difficult, task involved four 2-year-olds moving this “huge” box around two corners, down a hallway and through a door with only cheering and encouragement from their teacher; after some failed attempts, two children pulled, another got in the back and pushed, while the fourth simply couldn’t be bothered (there is always one in the group). Once in the classroom, that ordinary box became an artists’ canvas, a hideout, a garage and a tunnel. There were screams of excitement, giggles and some slight trepidation at going inside when the closed flaps made it dark. After a week, this box is still the center of excitement and imaginative play in that room.

We were fortunate this year to have several brand new families (new to Kansas City) tour and enroll in the preschool and preK program. Frequently the touring family will ask how we include faith in our curriculum; our answer is always the same, “We keep it simple and make it meaningful.”

For the smallest children, this includes songs and music, books to look at and read, a sense of comfort and belonging. As the children gain understanding, it becomes an awareness of others: sharing, taking turns, being helpful. There are simple prayers before snacks and lunch, stories and activities from the Bible, and a bigger awareness of how we can help other people (last summer the preschool camp invited police officers, firefighters and a few veterans to Country Club Christian Church and thanked them with banners, a song and child-made treats). There are field trips to the Zappia Sculpture and visits to the sanctuary to see the beauty of the stained glass windows or to “talk” to God. Questions are answered and asked by both children and adults, simply and in a way that makes sense.

Our hope, and goal, is for faith to be as simple as that cardboard box, yet so meaningful that it elicits questions and creates excitement. Through it all, we work together to help each other out.

*Lisa*



## Without Regrets Author at Luncheon

Helen Emmott RN, author of *Without Regrets: A Nurse’s Advice About Aging and Dying*, will speak at our Nov. 1 Faith and Grief Lunch at Village Presbyterian Church. Emmott’s book shares her story as a care-giver for her mother and mother-in-law.



Our Faith and Grief Lunch Ministry offers a safe place for those who grieve to remember, listen, and pray together. The meal begins at noon and ends promptly at 1:00 p.m., on the first Tuesday of every month. Everyone is welcome – those of all faiths as well as those who profess no spiritual beliefs. The lunch is free, provided by the sponsoring churches. A free will offering basket is available for those who wish to support this ministry.

The ministry is a collaboration of five churches, St. Andrew’s Episcopal, St. John’s United Methodist, Second Presbyterian, Village Presbyterian, and Country Club. Lunches are hosted at Village Presbyterian Church, 6641 Mission Road, Prairie Village.

For information: Rev. Joe Walker, joew@cccckc.org. To register: (469) 251-9612 or <http://www.faithandgrief.org/events/kansas-prairie-village-2016-11-01/>

## Blood Drive Collects 14 Units

On Oct. 16 we donated 14 units of life-saving blood to the Community Blood Center. Our next Blood Drive will be Jan. 15, 2017, the weekend of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

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## reStart the MusiKC: A Benefit Concert for Teens, Put on by Teens, to Help Teens in Kansas City

Country Club Christian Church Student Ministries will again host reStart the MusiKC, a benefit concert for high school students, planned by the church's high school students. Proceeds will benefit reStart, Inc., an agency providing shelter and support services to homeless individuals and teens in Kansas City.



The concert will be on Tues., Nov. 22 from 7:00-9:30 p.m. in the Social Hall. Students in grades 9-12 are welcome. Watch for more information.

## Infant Dedications on October 9



Louis Charles Guthrey. Parents are James and Amy Guthrey with daughter, Stella.



Harper Amelia Holmes. Parents are Ryan Holmes and Glenn Mills.



June Florence Irely. Parents are Holly and Peter Irely.

## Upcoming Student Events

### Sunday School Schedule

9:55-10:55 a.m.: Middle School Sunday School, Rm. 202

9:55-10:55 a.m.: High School Sunday School, Youth Center

### Monthly Special Events

#### Worlds of Fun Trip – The Haunt

Sat., Oct. 22, 4:30-7:30 p.m. All 6th-12th grade students and friends are welcome.

#### reStart the Music Concert

Tues., Nov. 22, 7:00-9:30 p.m., Social Hall. For 9th-12th grade.

### Monthly Service Project

#### Promotion for reStart the Music

Concert – Sun., Nov. 13, noon-2:00 p.m.

### Provide a Meal for a Family of a New Baby

Country Club Christian Church provides meals for the families of new babies born into our church family.

If you are interested in being part of this ministry, contact Amy Rose at [asm3125@hotmail.com](mailto:asm3125@hotmail.com) or Rev. Monica Lewis at [monical@cccckc.org](mailto:monical@cccckc.org).

### MOPS Holiday Bazaar

The MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) group that meets at Country Club Christian Church is holding a Holiday Bazaar as a fundraiser on Wed., Nov. 9 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Social Hall.



# Though the Mountains Will Crumble

By Monica Lewis, Minister to Children, Students and Families



On Oct. 15 at 7:00 p.m., in observance of the International Wave of Light, I lit a candle in my living room in front of a picture that references Isaiah 54. “Though the mountains will crumble, you will not.” When I lit the candle, I didn’t even think of its placement. It wasn’t until I bent down to take a picture to post on social media that I recognized the words behind the candle. That reference to Isaiah sits in that spot in my house every day.

When I lit that candle, I did it for so many people.

For friends and family. For friends of friends. For people I know only through blogs or other social media. For myself. For babies who so many of us have lost. For babies who remain only in memory. For sonogram pictures. For split cells that didn’t implant. For still births. For miscarriages. For infants who have died in their sleep. For all the babies and all the mothers who feel left without a label...mothers who feel like they don’t fit into any camp. Mother? Survivor? Victim? Fertility warrior?



In these moments, politics don’t matter. Religious understandings about the beginning of life don’t matter. What matters is on an individual level. What matters is the feelings and the experiences of each of the mothers, fathers and family members who’ve experienced loss. The woman with the enlarged picture of the cells splitting for her failed IVF attempt is grieving. The couple who was adopting a baby that was delivered still is grieving. Sometimes you know who they are—more often, you don’t. There are parents among us who no one realizes are parents. But they are.

It is a long road from one side of loss to the other. And it’s never fully resolved. Parents are never “healed” of their grief. In fact, it’s often their grief that allows them to feel connected to their child. But what those of us on the other side of grief know is that, even when we feel totally alone, God is always with us. God cries and mourns with us. And God continues to love and usher us through the worst moments in life.

Each year we recognize October as Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness month and Oct. 15 as Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day. If you know of someone who has experienced their own loss please love on them this month. If their child was named, speak the name of him/her to his/her parents. Recognize that parental grief is real and fluid—it will come and go in waves for the rest of their lives. And when you connect with them remember that it may be God acting through you speaking the prophetic words that were spoken so long ago and are just as alive today, “Though the mountains will crumble, you will not.”

*Monica*

## Children and Families

### Trunk or Treat Is Oct. 30

4:00-6:00 p.m.

Children birth-5th grade are invited to wear their Halloween costumes and join their friends gathering treats from decorated vehicles in the Combs Chapel parking lot. There will be chili, a caramel apple station, pumpkin decorating, games.

### MOPS Group

Mothers of Preschoolers (birth-K) meets the second Wednesday of each month from 9:00-11:00 a.m. in the Social Hall. The next meeting is Nov. 9. For more information on MOPs, check out [www.mops.org](http://www.mops.org).

### Advent in Advance

Sun., Nov. 20, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Make plans to attend this free Advent workshop for children birth through 5th grade in the Social Hall. Enjoy a light lunch and make-n-take session to prepare your family and home for the Advent season. You can make a wood block nativity set (start or add to yours), family keepsakes, and other fun activities to help us celebrate Advent

### Sunday School

Deep Blue curriculum is inspired by the verse, “In the depths of who I am, I rejoice in God my Savior.” (Luke 1:47 CEB) The children will discover what it means to be a disciple of Christ today through science experiments, art and crafts, animated videos and active games; making the Bible stories, characters and verses part of their lives. Parents, please check out the site, [www.deepbluekids.com](http://www.deepbluekids.com).

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# Our Church Family

## Sympathy

Our prayers and condolences are with the families and friends of:

**Cynthia McFarland**  
**Ellen Louise Lanner**

## Congratulations

Congratulations to these families on the birth of:

**Jackson Thomas Pfalzgraf**, son of Rorric and Elizabeth Pfalzgraf

## Memorials

Memorial gifts are placed into the Church's Endowment Funds, which are used to support the church now and into the future. The Endowment Trustees disperse the funds according to the Declaration of Trust approved by the official Congregational Board.

### **Donald White, for the Stephen Ministry of Country Club Christian Church**

Perry & Jeanne Cockayne  
Max Dewese  
Connie & J.D. Heitman  
John & Erma Hess  
Jenny King  
Neil & Tamala Kissel  
Gregory & Vickie Peterson  
Jo Strickler

### **Robert Wahlstedt**

Linda Carlson

### **Robert Woodbury**

Mr. & Mrs. Kimberly Bastable  
John & Erma Hess  
Barbara Poole

## PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. R. Glen Miles Senior Minister	Sara and Alex Goering Associate Directors of Music for Children and Students
Rev. Carla Aday Executive Minister	Ms. Anne Haraughty Ministries Coordinator
Rev. Monica Lewis Minister to Children, Students and Families	Ms. Lindsay Howes Director of Children's Ministries
Rev. Joe Walker Minister of Congregational Care	Ms. Sally Huggins Assistant Director of Communications
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Ms. Rachel Clement Director of Finance	Ms. Elizabeth Pfalzgraf Assistant Director of Children and Student Ministries
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816-333-4917

email: [office@cccckc.org](mailto:office@cccckc.org) website: [www.cccckc.org](http://www.cccckc.org)