



COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH

March 23, 2018 | Vol. 92 No. 6

COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

From the Senior Minister One Year Later



Rev. Carla Aday

A year ago this week, I was buying a new suit to interview for the position of Senior Minister at the church where

I had spent most of my adult life. (In case I needed new clothes to impress you!) My stomach was in knots. I was hopeful and excited. I still feel butterflies as I remember the night the board voted to call me. I was pinching myself and my heart was pounding in my throat!

It has been a whirlwind of a year. After the initial flurry of notes and hugs, we jumped into action. Since I was vacating the position I had held, we needed to “back fill” me before I could begin the new role. (Yes we actually do work here all week, not just on Sundays). After that, we still needed to fill open positions in Mission and Children/Family/Youth. I cannot begin to tell you how proud I am of the staff team that we have built. The Personnel Committee and Congregational Board worked tirelessly with me to find the best of the best to serve us in this new chapter. I know you are thrilled too.

Last September we celebrated “installation” which will remain one of the highlights of my life. I was-

continued on page 2

Holy Week Schedule



Palm Sunday Worship: Mar. 25. Palm Parade and Pastors’ Class baptisms at the 11:00 a.m. service; Easter Egg hunt at noon.

Maundy Thursday: Mar. 29, 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday: Mar. 30, 12:15 p.m. (prelude at noon)

Celebrate the Miracle of Easter-

Special Service Times: 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Rev. Carla Aday preaching. Featuring the Kansas City Brass at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Child care available for all services. Sunday school classes will not meet.

Complimentary Easter Breakfast

7:30-8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast, Parlor

8:30-9:30 a.m. Hot Breakfast, Social Hall

Grace at Work

Join us on Sat., Apr. 21, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. for Grace at Work, 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. Through your participation you will have the opportunity to experience



fellowship, while assisting others in need and creating visible change in our community.

Complimentary hot breakfast begins at 8:00 a.m. in the Social Hall before departing to work sites. Sign up in the parlor or online at <https://www.cccckc.org/sign-up-for-grace-at-work/>



IN THIS ISSUE

Easter Offering.....page 2

From the Beginning by Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn.....page 3

Becoming True Neighbors by Paul Cutelli.....page 5

From the Senior Minister

continued from page 1

profoundly moved by the colleagues and friends who traveled from afar to participate and by the congregation's collective praise of God as we joined hands and hearts to follow Jesus into the future. The cards you sent me sit under my desk in a beautiful box as a constant reminder that I do not serve alone but with you as together we seek to hear God's voice and courageously act out God's radical love.

The biggest change for me has been the "weekly" preaching. Last summer while I was on study leave, I texted my husband to alert him that "there is a Sunday every week." Listening for God through scripture, current events, art, friends, poses a constant challenge but a welcome one. It keeps me awake. Not physically, but spiritually. I seek to speak not my words but words that echo the wisdom of the holy one, a humbling task.

I am thrilled about what is bubbling now in committees. That includes: new ideas about worship, our upcoming 100th anniversary, a renovated youth center and new youth pastor to expand our ministry with teenagers, growing partnerships in Northeast KC, a new transportation strategy to bring older adults to church. In so many ways, we are preparing to welcome our next 500 members. We are creatively reaching out to those who hunger for community and meaning in a world that is increasingly spiritual but not religious. God expects nothing less of us.

Thank you for the privilege of serving here. I treasure it daily. I am honored to serve in God's name. And I deeply value and respect you, both as individuals, and as a community of faith.

Carla

Easter Offering Supports Gardening Program

The Grants and Special Offerings team has chosen KC Community Gardens and CEPAD, our partner in Nicaragua to be recipients of this year's Easter offering. Both organizations work to help low income, food insecure individuals and families produce vegetables and fruit from garden plots located in yards, vacant lots and at community sites. Find out more about the work these organizations are doing by visiting their web sites, www.kccg.org and www.cepadnica.org. You can support the Easter offering by placing your check in the collection plate or by sending it to the church office. Please put Easter Offering in the memo line of your check or text the word EASTER and the amount you'd like to contribute to 816-839-9410 and follow the directions. ☞

Guest Gathering on April 8

Whether you're a new visitor, or you've been attending for a while, we invite you to join us at the next Guest Gathering on Apr. 8 at 10:00 a.m. Learn more about us in a casual setting as a member of our clergy guides you through our values, traditions, and beliefs. Discover ways to connect with our service opportunities, classes, small groups, and of course, our members. RSVP to Barbara George, 816-381-9251. ☞

Congregational Meeting

A brief Congregational Meeting will be held at the end of each service on Sun., Apr. 8 for the purpose of voting on proposed bylaw changes recommended by the Congregational Board. The changes suggested are two fold: 1) bring the bylaws into alignment with current church practice; and 2) streamline the board and its committees by both reducing their size to reflect current best practice, and by reducing time demands on our volunteer board members. In February, the Board voted unanimously to recommend these changes, submitted by the Governance Review Committee, to the congregation for approval.

You may read the proposed changes at www.cccckc.org/proposed-by-law-changes/. (Paper copies available in the church office) Steve Bough, chairperson of the Governance Review Committee, will answer questions about the proposed changes at a meeting in the church library on Sun., Mar. 25 from 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Leadership Nominations

The process to fill elected positions for the 2018-2019 church year is underway. Your participation is invaluable in identifying a diverse representation of leaders from our congregation. Forms are available in the parlor today or online at www.cccckc.org/leadership-nominations/ Deadline is Apr. 8.

Max Deweese Golf Tournament

Attention all golfers: We are pleased to announce the inaugural Max Deweese Golf Tournament on Fri., Sept. 21, at Swope Memorial Golf Course. Beginning with lunch, this 1:00 p.m. shotgun will be a great time of fun, but will also raise funds for the Veterans Community Project, providing shelter for veterans here in the Kansas City area. Make plans now to sign-up (\$150 per person), form a team, and sponsor a hole (\$750). All are welcome. For more information, contact Dr. Mike Graves at mikeg@cccckc.org.



From the Beginning...

By Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn, Interim Minister to Youth, Children, and Families



“You had to be here from the beginning,” I chastise my husband as he walks in half way through a show I am watching. He immediately says this doesn’t make sense. He asks questions that show he is a bit lost and in an effort to hush him I simply say, “It won’t fully make sense to you because you are only seeing one part of it.”

As I prepare for Holy Week getting excited about the Pastors’ Class baptisms and the palm parade with shouts of hosanna – I often want to hurry past the other Holy Week events and get to Easter morning. The mystery of Easter is celebrated here with such beautiful flowers, amazing music, greetings of Happy Easter from many people – a truly joyous celebration. Yet as I have gotten older I have come to recognize the necessity of the full sequence of events that lead us to the morning where we celebrate new life.

One of my seminary professors often said you cannot have true joy without experiencing some suffering. I remember at the time really struggling with that – trying to stand in what she saw as the difference between happiness and joy. In recent years I have had a bit more sadness and dare I say some personal suffering with the loss of both of my parents, and the words of my professor have more meaning and reality for me now. I now see how sweet is the joy of a special celebration with family; how real is the joy when one of my son beams from an accomplishment; how deep is the joy to feel unconditional love.

So too we must follow this pattern of living into the fullness of all the events of Holy Week. As our hosannas turn to quiet moments as we embrace the sadness of Maundy Thursday when Jesus shared with the disciples how he knew the end of his earthly time was nearing. And then the dark loneliness of Good Friday when we confront the suffering, pain, and deep injustice that still lives on in our world today. But the story does not end there, as Christians we receive the deep, grace-filled love showered on us by our God as we raise up our alleluias on Easter morning.

We must live through the full Christ event in order to be lifted up by the joy of Easter. In other words, you have to be there from the beginning for it all to make sense. 🍷



Join us for worship!

Sunday Service Times

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

March 25

Mark 11:1-11

Questioning Jesus, Part 6:
If Anyone Asks You...

Rev. Carla Aday Preaching

Maundy Thursday

Rev. Corey Meyer Preaching

Good Friday

Mark 15:25-39

Questioning God

Dr. Mike Graves Preaching

April 1 – Easter Sunday

Rev. Carla Aday Preaching

Faith and Grief Lunch

Join us for prayer and sharing at our Faith and Grief Lunch on Tues., Apr. 3, at noon. Everyone is welcome. The complimentary lunch is hosted at Village Presbyterian Church, 6641 Mission Road, Prairie Village, KS. For information: (816) 381-9249 or care@cccckc.org.

Do You Follow Us?



Adult Classes and Group Fellowship Opportunities

Rethinking the Lord's Prayer

Led by Mike Graves. Mondays, Apr. 16, 23, 30, 7:00 p.m. Scholars in the area of worship note that even when we go through the motions on Sundays, it's ok because the motions go through us.

The Lord's Prayer could be a good example since it's easy to mumble our way through, not paying attention to its meaning. In this three-week class, we will look more closely at this beloved prayer Jesus gave us, line by line. It might make a difference the next time we pray it.

Faithpub

Hosted by Dr. Mike Graves

Apr. 19 and May 17, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

This popular men's group meets for beer and conversation on a host of spiritual topics. This spring we will be in our new location at Bier Station, 120 E. Gregory Blvd, Kansas City, MO, with a guest speaker each session.



Music Series

NAVO, Homage to Bach, Sat., Apr. 14, Sanctuary, 7:30 p.m. NAVO is composed of internationally recognized artists who have made their home in Kansas. Features KU and Park University music faculty along with other professional musicians. For more information: <https://www.navoarts.com/> Free and open to the public.

Seasonal Gifts, Blood Drive

Opportunities to serve this spring include delivering a flower to a shut-in and organizing our summer blood drive. The week before Easter, teams will deliver small potted flowers to a home-bound members. Spring is also the time to plan our summer blood drive. We are looking for help coordinating with the blood center and recruiting donors. For information: joew@cccckc.org.

New in The Well

Check out a variety of books that take a new look at Paul. "A new Paul is beginning to emerge [from New Testament Scholars], one who differs from the Paul of Augustine and Luther, who is no friend to the traditional orthodoxy that has co-opted him for almost two thousand years." (Amazon) *The Real Paul*, by Bernard Brandon Scott; *The Authentic Letters of Paul: A New Reading of Paul's Rhetoric and Meaning*, by Arthur J. Dewey, Roy W. Hoover, Lane C. McGaughy and Daryl D. Schmidt, and more.



Holy Land in 2019

Make plans now to visit the Holy Land in 2019. Dr. Mike Graves and Dr. David May will be leading a trip to Israel, starting in Galilee, coming down the Jordan valley, and culminating with some of the most cherished sites in and around Jerusalem. Departing May 20 and returning May 29, 2019, the cost for this 10-day trip is \$3,400 per person, double occupancy, and it includes round trip airfare, ground transportation, hotels, and two meals per day, as well as entrance into all the sites and gratuities. For more information, contact Dr. Mike Graves via email. A \$300 deposit is required and space is limited. Visit <http://www.ccccckc.org/holy-land/> for more details about the trip or to download reservation form.

Cathedrals and Courses of Scotland Trip in 2020

Make plans now to travel to Scotland, as we explore our religious heritage as Disciples of Christ and the home of golf. This 10-day trip (June 29-July 8, 2020) will include visits to key religious sites in Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Iona, as well as historic golf courses for those so inclined.

Metro Mission Serve and Share

Looking for ways to share your time, talent and treasure? Watch each issue of the newsletter for the Serve and Share column, featuring upcoming service opportunities in the Metro Mission Ministry area.

Collection Connection

Our April collection is new clothing for Della Lamb's Operation Santa. Specially we are collecting girls' extra small sweatshirts, girls' medium sweatshirts, boys' large underpants, boys' large sweatpants. Della Lamb can also purchase items at a lower cost by buying in bulk, so if you wish to donate money instead of clothing items that is appreciated.

Service Opportunities with Mission Partners:

- Cooks for Micah Ministry and Cross-Lines
- Tutors/After-School Care Partners for Hartman Elementary
- Meal Teams, Gardening, and Facility Improvement at Grace United

To get involved and for more information please contact Corey Meyer at coreym@cccckc.org.



a message from staff

Becoming True Neighbors

By Paul Cutelli, Director of Technology



Ever since I was old enough to think about history, I have wondered why humankind continues to perpetuate a seemingly endless cycle of harm, help, and then a blissful return to the status quo not really addressing the issues that caused harm in the first place. A tragedy strikes, we rally to

assist those effected, and then time and time again, once we start to feel good about the aid rendered, we fall back into the complacency of everyday life (See: Haiti, all the issues they still are dealing with post-earthquake from 2010). Society rarely gets the opportunity to enact a real change that could have an enduring effect, something that doesn't just put the proverbial bandage on the un-healing wound. That is why this new student-led movement growing from Parkland, Florida, has caught my attention.

These students from South Florida have been through a terrible experience, one that I hope never transpires anywhere else ever again. Instead of letting the trauma fade away and be yet another "bandage" scenario, they are telling us that they feel something is wrong, something ought to be done to fix it.

It is quite refreshing as a person who believes in the importance of both empathy and civics that these youth are encouraging us to find a way to break the repetition of pain, recovery, and forgetfulness. In a time where it is easy to disconnect from society with smart phones and computers, these students are putting themselves squarely in the public eye with their activism, making sure their voices are heard. It gives me a great hope for the future of the nation and our democratic values.

Yet what can we, the adults, take from this movement? Regardless of the politics involved, perhaps you can agree with me that we should follow the example of the Parkland students and try to break the status quo, stop acting like the hurt/help cycle is acceptable, and begin to listen to each other. Let's have conversations about pains, past and present, no matter how hard those conversations might be, and try to suture the wounds that were created. Through a rational, empathetic, and cathartic discussion, I believe we can break this loop and begin to be true neighbors to each other. ☞

Our Church Family

Memorials and Tributes

Memorial gifts and gifts honoring loved ones 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.

Carol Anderson

Mary Jane Krugh

Marilyn Carrell, for *Virginia Reed Food Drive*

Annie Brabson

Ed and Kathy Buckley

Phillip and Faye Freeburg

Ralph and Donna Fronabarger

Alan and Susan Garner

Ronald and Jo Ann Hahs

Ron and Lois Harger

Cindy and Randy Irely

Lance and Pat Jessee

Carty and Peggy Johannsen

Phil Klever and Debbie McQueeney

Jane and John Marty

David W. Newcomer IV and Gene Ann Newcomer

Family Foundation Fund

Amanda and Timothy Newitt

Brian and Mary Lynn O'Connor

Linda and Denney Rives

James and Johnnie Shonkwiler

John and Martha Jane Stewart

Melanie and Wayne Thompson

Mary and Pete Thorsell

Bobbie Vanice

Donnis Clark, for *Congregational Care*

Jeanne and Perry Cockayne

Sam Kribbs

Carty and Peggy Johannsen

Student Ministries

Middle School and High School Info. Session Sun., Apr. 15, 10:00 a.m. or noon. Middle and High School students and their parents are invited to a gathering to hear about opportunities. Information will be shared about summer mission trips; summer camps; regional opportunities and a look at the 2019 Nicaragua high school mission trip. We will host two sessions with the same information to accommodate schedules.

Tall Oaks Summer Camps

Time to start thinking about camp! Tall Oaks is our denomination's camp and conference center in Linwood, Kansas. For many years it has offered summer camps ranging from single day camps for younger ones to overnight camps for 2nd grade and up. Youth have a fun-filled experience meeting other youth from the region while swimming, horseback riding, playing games, attending meaningful worship and so much more. Check out the dates and all the details at www.talloaks.org

Youth Choir

Meets Sundays from noon to 12:45 p.m. in Rm. 213. Come sing with us!

Support our Students

Looking for a service opportunity that is fun and connects you with our amazing students? Contact April Booth at aprilb@cccck.org to find out how you can get involved with Sunday School or youth group.

Sunday School for 6th-12th Graders meets every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in Rooms 205 and 202.

High School Youth Group meets every Thursday from 6:30 p.m. at Panera. Dinner provided!

Middle School Youth Group meets every Friday from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the Youth Center. Dinner provided!

Want to volunteer with Student Ministries?
Contact Lori Bennett, Chair of the Student Ministries

Children and Families

Palm Sunday is March 25

Children will participate in a palm parade at the conclusion of Sunday School, process into the 11:00 a.m. worship service and be present for the Pastors' Class baptisms. This is a very special celebration in the life of the church and meaningful for the children to witness.

Easter Egg Hunt

Join other children and families for our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Sun., Mar. 25 at 12:00 p.m. on the Combs Chapel and east lawns. This event for the whole family will have a petting zoo and the Easter Bunny. Please bring your cameras to take pictures with the Easter Bunny. Lunch provided. The egg hunts will be age-specific for children birth through 5th grade.

Children's Choir

For grades kindergarten - 5th grade Rehearsals are on Sundays, 10:45-11:30 a.m. (until musical), Rm. 213.

First Fridays

Food, fun and fellowship for 3rd-5th graders on Apr. 6. Meets every first Friday of the month from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at church.

First Friday Parent Gathering

Apr. 6. While 3rd - 5th graders have their regular monthly gathering at church, parents of these children are invited to a gathering hosted at the home of Carla Aday from 6:00- 8:00 p.m. Drop your children off at church and come by for a chance to connect with other parents. Childcare for younger siblings will be available at church by reservation. RSVP to Aprilb@cccck.org by Apr. 3.

Family Worship Night



Sun, Apr. 15 from 4:30-6:00 p.m.

All ages of children are invited to come with their families. Sing, pray hear a bible story and create worshipful items to use at home. Free dinner provided. RSVP to April at aprilb@cccck.org.

MOPS

Mothers of Preschoolers (birth-K) meets the second Wednesday of each month during the school year, from 9:00-11:00 a.m. in the Social Hall.



Celebration of Membership



On, Mar. 4 we had a Celebration of Membership during the 11:00 a.m. worship service, as we welcomed new members to our church family and gave thanks for all of you who are part of our community.

New Members Welcomed



Justin Cottrell
New member hosts are
Marcia and Andy Berry



Randy Blundell
New member host is
Stuart Hoffman

Infant Dedication



Landrey Marie Bollig, daughter of Aaron and Melissa Bollig, was dedicated on March 18.

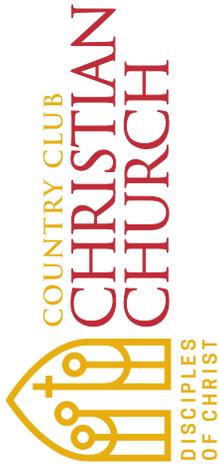


Kaitlyn Hilt and Michael
Ford
New member hosts are
Devin Jenkins and Zach
Jungmeyer
Not pictured: Allen
Norman



Sunday school kids are all smiles as they learn about Lent and the miracle of Easter.

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Kansas City, MO
Permit No. 1498



6101 Ward Parkway
Kansas City, MO 64113

Return Service Requested

Program Staff

Rev. Carla Aday
Senior Minister

Dr. Mike Graves
Scholar in Residence

Rev. Joe Walker
Minister of Congregational Care

Rev. Corey Meyer
Director of Mission Partnerships

Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn
Interim Minister to Children,
Youth, and Families

Rachel Clement
Director of Finance

Paul Cutelli
Director of Technology

Dr. Dina Pannabecker
Evans
Executive Director of Operations/
Co-Director of Music

Barbara George
Director of Membership
Development

Sara and Alex Goering
Associate Directors of Music
for Children and Students

Anne Haraughty
Ministries Coordinator

Lindsay Howes
Director of Children's Ministries

Lisa McCleish
Director of Early Childhood
Programs

Elizabeth Pfalzgraf
Assistant Director of Children
and Student Ministries

Rev. Chuck Pickrel
Director of Student Ministries

Lara Schopp
Director of Communications

Leslie Tenjack
Assistant Director of
Communications

Dr. Paul Tucker
Co-Director of Music

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

816-333-4917

email: office@cccckc.org website: www.cccckc.org

SAVE THE DATES



Palm Sunday Worship

Mar. 25. 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. Egg hunt at noon on chapel lawn.

Maundy Thursday

Mar. 29, 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday

Mar. 30, 12:15 p.m. (prelude at noon)

Easter

Sun., Apr. 1. Special service times at 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Child care available for all services.

Complimentary Easter Breakfast

7:30-8:00 a.m. continental breakfast, Parlor;
8:30-9:30 a.m. - hot breakfast, Social Hall

Congregational Meeting

Sun., Apr. 8, after each service to vote on proposed bylaw changes.

Grace at Work

Sat., Apr. 21, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Join us for a fun-filled half-day volunteer event open to all ages and abilities.

For the full church calendar, visit our website at

CCCCKC.org

Follow us!

