



COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH

April 6, 2018 | Vol. 92 No. 7

COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

From the Senior Minister Woven Together



Rev. Carla Aday

Look out and a beautiful woman who has been sitting alone for five years is now sitting in a different section, laughing knowingly

with a group of friends. A grandmother on the third row is reaching over the edge of the wooden pew to display her shiny amethyst ring to a curly haired baby girl arching her back in her Dad's arms. An elder in a hat extends her hand to support another elder on the stairs on the way to the communion table. And then I close my eyes. Twenty robed in blue echo heaven's bliss, though their own individual lives are fractured and bruised from the week's events.

The drama unfolds week after week, not only during the passing of the peace or after the benediction as folks break back into conversation but even during the worship service, where small tender acts of graceful love seem to weave the people together into a church. A few weeks ago in staff meeting, Mike led us in a conversation about worship. What is it really? Why do we gather? One suggestion was that "worship promotes growing closer to those gathered." We wondered aloud if this happens as we sit in rows facing forward. And then we

continued on page 2

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/> Deadline Mon., Apr. 16.



Thank you, to each of you, for your valuable time and your endless efforts. Our partnership with Country Club Christian Church means the world to us. Please remember that we are very grateful, for the gift of you!

Dr. Jessie O. Kirksey
Principal, Hartman Elementary
Grace at Work 2017 project site

Pathways to Learning in April

Don't Know Much about the Bible



Led by Dr. Graves, Sundays, Apr. 15, 22, 29. 10:00-10:55 a.m. If there ever was a time when everyone attending Sunday services knew the Bible well, it's no longer the case. Surveys indicate we are better at naming the four members of The Beatles than the names of the four Gospels. Even entering seminarians admit to lacking basic knowledge of the biblical texts. In this introduction, we'll explore the library of documents we call "Bible," with an overview of both testaments, and discuss approaches to reading more closely and fully.

IN THIS ISSUE

Guest Gathering on April 8	page 2
The Things We Say To Ourselves by Rev. Corey Meyer	page 3
Quiet Givers by Lindsay Howes	page 5

From the Senior Minister

continued from page 1

all shared stories about how we have witnessed these subtle yet profound gestures indicate something holy that is far beyond anything written in the worship bulletin.

In his book, *Way of Love*, Norman Wirzba writes, "A community is not simply a collection of individuals, but a membership of creatures woven together by the daily work of love." One of the things I love about Easter is that on that Sunday, the whole community comes together to celebrate that we are a membership, not just a collection. It's much like getting the whole family together on any holiday. Somehow it just feels complete to have all of us at the table. And to know that we are woven together by the daily work of love.

See you Sunday.

-Carla.

Carla

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 Rev. Carla Aday 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 Congregational meeting will be held following each worship service on Sun., Apr. 8 to vote on proposed changes to the church bylaws. Go to www.cccckc.org/proposed-bylaw-changes-april-8-meeting/ to review the Resolution of the Congregational Board Recommending Amendments to the Bylaws, and the Amended and Restated Bylaws.

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.

Holy Land in 2019

Make plans now to visit the Holy Land in 2019. Dr. Mike Graves, Rev. Carla Aday, 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.cccckc.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.

Do You Follow Us?





The Things We Say To Ourselves

By Rev. Corey Meyer, Director of Mission Partnerships



“Self-compassion is key because when we’re able to be gentle with ourselves in the midst of shame, we’re more likely to reach out, connect, and experience empathy.” – Brene Brown

We are our own worst critics. You have probably heard that cliché a hundred times. I cannot remember where I heard it for the first time, or even quote who said it. What I know is that it rings too true for many of us. We all seem to have that voice in our head that can either whisper or yell at us when we do something wrong. My inner critic has been relentless lately. I’m talking full force; drown out the rest of my thoughts through a megaphone relentless. It’s pierced through about everything: you forgot to do the dishes today, how could you forget to pay that bill, if you went to bed earlier you wouldn’t be so tired, you watched two hours of Netflix tonight when you could have read that book, you’d be a better person if only... the list goes on and on.

Self-criticism is a force to reckon with. It’s becoming a new topic of conversation among psychologists, sociologists, therapists, and other “-ists” that have interest in how people behave. We all seem to be subject to it. Some have a louder critic than others. It often comes out of the myth of perfectionism that we believed could be reached. We see ourselves in the highest ideal and then when we fail to reach it, a catastrophic disappointment happens and suddenly feelings like shame and inadequacy creep in our beings. Brene Brown is a contemporary author, recurring TED Talk-er, and sociologist attacking the culture of shame in our society and how we can be resilient to it.

One of the ways we can combat our inner self-critic and the feeling of shame is changing our self-talk and employing a great deal of self-compassion. I’ve been on a journey of trying this more lately.

In the recent weeks I have found myself repeating a timeless word to myself: Grace. Each time I hear that inner-critic flip on the switch of the megaphone and yell at me I take a pause. I take a deep breath, focus myself, and respond to myself with saying, “Grace.” I can tell you there is an immediate wave of calm that comes across me. A deep relief happens in my soul that I can forgive myself for being so tough. I can relax knowing that sometimes I make mistakes. I may not live up to who I want to be in the moment and that is okay. Self-compassion is a great spiritual discipline we can employ in our lives. It is a reminder that we are always living into being our best selves and sometimes we fall flat on our face and need to hear the word “grace.” ☞



Join us for worship!

Sunday Service Times

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

April 8

Mark 16:1-8

What Do You Think of the Endng?

Dr. Mike Graves Preaching

April 15

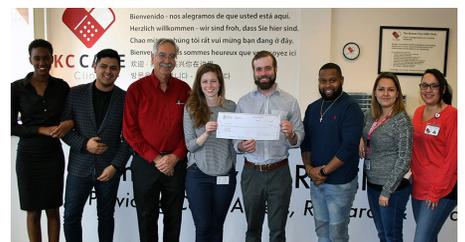
Legacy of Love: Part 1

Rev. Carla Aday Preaching

April 22

Legacy of Love: Part 2

Rev. Carla Aday Preaching



Rev. Corey Meyer and Lance Jessee, chair of the Grants and Special Offerings Ministry Team, present checks to Harvesters Community Food Network and KC Care Clinic. These agencies were recipients of the 2017 Christmas Offering.

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. 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.



Working with our partners at Della Lamb Community Services, a team set up a home for a family of eight refugees from the Congo.

Metro Mission Serve and Share Collection Connection

Our April collection is new clothing for Della Lamb's Operation Santa. Specifically 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.

Tiny House Update

One year ago, our Easter Offering raised funds for the Veterans Community Project Tiny House Neighborhood in Kansas City helping homeless veterans secure housing. Beverly Johnson of our Grants and Special Offerings Team sent a recent picture of the progress.



Special Donation Request

Our partners at Della Lamb are in need of portable sewing machines for their sewing program as a way for refugees in Kansas City to earn income. If you have a working, or repairable, sewing machine please bring it to the church. They can be cleaned and adjusted as needed.

Serve at Micah Ministry on Mon., Apr. 9

Country Club Christian Church provides volunteers to serve dinner at Micah Ministry on the second Monday evening of every month, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. The next service opportunity at Micah Ministry will be on Mon., Apr. 9. Meet in the chapel lot at 4:30 p.m. to carpool. Return to church at 7:30 p.m.

Micah Ministry is an outreach of Independence Boulevard Christian Church (IBCC) in the Historic Northeast and one of our Northeast PartNerShip ministries. Nourishing suppers are served to their neighbors in need, mostly the working poor. Unlike some meal programs, the guests are served at tables, with tablecloths, rather than having them stand in a line to be fed.

To get involved and for more information please contact Corey Meyer at coreym@cccckc.org. Children must be at least 12 years old to serve.



a message from staff

Quiet Givers

By Lindsay Howes, Director of Children's Ministry



*Oh the wonderful way you'll feel, you hear?
 If you just go out and volunteer...
 A bird...a worm...a guzzle-bivvit,
 Could all use some help if you'll just give it;
 You might say "No! Not! No Way!"
 "I've nothing to give-not today anyway!
 But you'll see if you look deep inside of you,
 You've lots to give!
 It's true! You do!*

-Dr Suess

I am not sure you are aware, but did you know our own security team leader, Jean, and her staff, take ALL of the Easter Eggs after the Egg Hunt? I mean ALL of the eggs. They grab the bags of "RETURN EGGS HERE" after the crazy hunt and simply load them up and take them. In a few weeks, Jean will bring baskets of eggs back. They will be perfectly matched, a dozen per bag for our Collection Connection next year. Not only does she do this ridiculous task, she also comes to my office the week before the hunt, grabs any remaining eggs and says, "I will fill these and be back with a 1,000 more on Palm Sunday for the hunt"...WHAT?!

She's amazing, a quiet giver, who takes care of us every Sunday and then for the last four years has helped with this tremendous task. So when you see Jean or any of our other security on Ward Parkway, take a minute to thank them. They not only stand out there in the freezing cold, rain, sleet, you name it, but they take thousands of plastic Easter eggs and put them back together year after year. 🍷

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.

Diana Black, for Congregational Care
 Maureen McGinty

Marilyn Carrell, for Virginia Reed Food Drive
 Gary and Cheryl Hanson

Byron Glenn, brother of Beckie Rogers
 Randy and Cindy Irely

Joyce Minor, for Micah Ministry
 Jane Booth

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.

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

Support our Students

Looking for a service opportunity that is fun and connects you with our amazing students? Contact April Booth at aprilb@cccckc.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

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@cccckc.org.



Grace at Work,

Families are encouraged to serve together organizing envelopes and bags for Harvesters. This project is appropriate for families with young children. Sign up in the parlor or at www.cccckc.org/sign-up-for-grace-at-work/

First Friday

Food, fun and fellowship for 3rd-5th graders. Join us on May 4, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at church. Dinner provided

Club Kids Zoo Trip

Sat. June 9 - Sun. June 10,

Zoo Overnight at Omaha's

Henry Doorly Zoo for grades

3-5. We will be meeting at

the church at 12:00 p.m. on

Sat., June 9 and returning for

parent pick up in the after-

noon of Sun., June 10. Open to those who have completed

grades 3-5. Cost \$90.



Save the Date for VBS

Save the date for Vacation Bible School, June 25-27. For children ages 3 through 5th grade.

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.



Season of Lent

Palm Sunday was an amazing day of celebration, including our Pastors' Class baptisms, the children's Palm Parade and our annual Easter Egg Hunt. Easter morning included meaningful worship, wonderful music, and fellowship at the annual Easter breakfast.

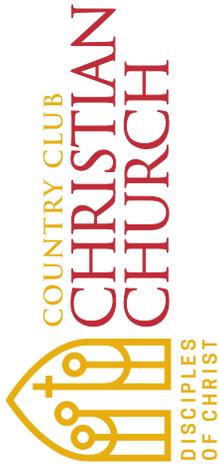


Pastor's Class: First Row (L-R): Mason Hedrick, Jake Bartlett, Amelia Hicks, Adam Bell, Luke Steinlicht. Second Row (L-R): Tristan Roske, Russell Smith, Riley Zschoche, Franchesca Lundine, Lauren McGuire



The Easter breakfast is a long-time tradition at Country Club Christian Church. This year's breakfast was a huge success thanks to our wonderful breakfast team: Dave Ehman, David Hunter, Lance Jessee, John Trewolla, Bill and Adam Watson, George Gordon, Randy Irely, Phil Klever, Bob Waldo, Roxanne Carr, David Showalter, Bill Carrell, Greg Lear, and Marie Hunter.

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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
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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

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Ministries Coordinator

Lindsay Howes
Director of Children's Ministries

Lisa McCleish
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SAVE THE DATES



Congregational Meeting

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

Family Worship Night

Sun, Apr. 15 from 4:30-6:00 p.m. All ages of children are invited to come with their families.

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.

Stewardship Campaign

April 15 Gospel/Jazz Singer Bukeka, with Dr. Paul Tucker at the piano.

April 22 Vocal Trio of Kevin Briggs, Vicki Tucker, and Sharman Wilson. Pick up your stewardship packet in the Parlor that morning.

April 29 String Theory Quartet: Andy Berry, guitar; Glenn Crocker, bass; David Soxman, mandolin; Julia Soxman, ukulele. A coffee cart will serve specialty coffees in the Parlor all morning.

May 6, Pledge Sunday Enjoy a light brunch in the parlor between 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Music featuring soloist Shelle Jensen; the Sticks and Phone Orffestra; and the Country Club Singers with Youth Choir.



For the full church calendar, visit our website at

CCCCKC.org

Follow us!

