



COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH

May 4, 2018 | Vol. 92 No. 9

COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

From the Senior Minister Hope and Love



Rev. Carla Aday

"The doctor says I have a couple of swollen lymph nodes" my husband told me after his annual physical. "Probably due to a sinus infection but he wants to see me again if they

don't go away."

So we waited. And they didn't go away. So more tests. And more waiting. And more tests. And waiting.

Advent is the season of waiting for four weeks until the baby Jesus arrives on Christmas Eve. This felt longer than that. It was more like waiting for the second coming. Eternal waiting and wondering. Finally, on Good Friday morning, my husband called me to say that what we assumed was nothing, was actually a something, a malignant growth.

So there were more tests and more waiting. It was agony for an impatient planner like me. The happy news is that my husband's cancer has a cure rate of 95%. The unhappy news is that they will "beat up his body" (that is a medical term that the doctors and nurses both use, said with love of course) before he is going to reach that cure. We expect the summer to be filled with some rough patches but that by fall we will be back into our regular patterns of life.

I will not pretend that I have really "processed" all of this spiritually

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2018 Stewardship Campaign: Legacy of Love May 6 Is Pledge Sunday



Enjoy a light brunch in the parlor between 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. this Sunday, May 6. Music featuring soloist Shelle Jensen; the Sticks and Phone Orffestra; and the Country Club Singers with Youth Choir. Please drop your pledge card in a basket during communion so we may dedicate our gifts and ourselves to the ministry God calls us to share. Thank you for your generous gifts to Country Club Christian Church.

Backyard Bash this Summer

Join us this summer for Backyard Bash, four Wednesday evenings of food fellowship and fun, starting Wed., May 30. Come for dinner at 6:00p.m., then stay for one of four break-out activity tracks from 6:30-7:30 p.m., including:

- Family Fellowship – fun and games ideal for families
- "Fred Talks" – classes based on the gospel of Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood
- Service Projects – including working with the Green Team
- Middle and High School fun and fellowship

Watch for more information coming soon!

Worship on the Lawn

Our popular outdoor worship resumes this summer with the 9:00 a.m. service moving to the front lawn starting Sun., May 27. Join us in this beautiful worship space as we welcome guest musicians, share in communion, and hear a message of hope and grace. Come as you are – ride your bike, bring your dog or walk to worship. Sidewalk chalk and bubbles will be out for children to enjoy.



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From the Senior Minister

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and emotionally. There are moments of despair and vulnerability. And glimpses of the sheer goodness of life with this one I love so intensely. There are times when your pastor is just a person, as susceptible to heartbreak as anyone in the world. God's love does not shield us from immersion in the human drama.

But even when my mind wanders to the worst case scenarios, I know that woven into the fabric of my life is a vast network of people who pray for us, who reveal God's abstract love in myriad acts of compassionate kindness. So mostly, I am grateful, to travel this way with all of you. 🍷

Carla

Celebration of Service

Join us on Sun., June 24 as we celebrate all of our members and friends who have served during the 2017-2018 year. If you've participated in Grace at Work, served communion, served at Micah Ministry, tutored at Hartman Elementary, taught Sunday School, worked with our partner agencies, or any of the dozens more service opportunities, here at the church or throughout our community, we want to celebrate YOU! Special recognition in all three worship services, and lunch on the front lawn afterward.

Guest Gathering

Whether you're a new visitor, or you've been attending for a while, we invite you to join us for pastry and coffee in the library on May 6 at 10:00 a.m. A member of our clergy will guide you through our values, traditions, and beliefs and you'll discover ways to connect with our service opportunities, classes, small groups, and members. RSVP to Barbara George, 816-381-9251.

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.

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.



reflections

Sad Is Important, Too

Rev. Joe Walker, Minister of Congregational Care



Recently, one of my favorite writers, Newbery Medal-winning author Matt de la Peña, published an op-ed in *Time*, “Why We Shouldn’t Shield Children From Darkness.” He related an experience where his daughter saw his wife cry. “I couldn’t help thinking,” he wrote, “a fraction of her innocence had been lost that day. But maybe these minor episodes of loss are just as vital to the well-adjusted child’s development as moments of joy. Maybe

instead of anxiously trying to protect our children from every little hurt and heartache, our job is to simply support them through such experiences. To talk to them. To hold them.”

It is hard enough to talk to adults about sadness, loss, death, and confusing social interactions. And, it is even harder to talk with children about these topics. Here are four books that I highly recommend for young (and not-so-young) readers. They are available in The Well and I have a copy of each if you would like to flip through them.

Be Kind, Pat Zietlow Miller, Jen Hill (Illustrator)

When a classmate spills purple juice on her dress, our young protagonist tries to be kind, but her gesture does not produce the result she expected. She sets off to explore what it means to be kind. (3 - 6 Years)

Each Kindness by Jacqueline Woodson, E. B. Lewis (Illustrator)

A new girl joins our protagonist’s class. Day after day our protagonist passes up opportunities to show the newcomer a little kindness. Then, one day, the opportunities are gone. (5 - 8 Years)

The Dead Bird by Margaret Wise Brown, Christian Robinson (Illustrator)

From the author of the beloved classic *Goodnight Moon* comes this story about children playing in a park and discovering a dead bird. The children act on the natural human inclination to honor the life that has been lost through ritual. (4 - 7 Years)

Love by Matt de la Peña, Loren Long (Illustrator)

Gentle prose accompanies our little one from infancy to independence, illuminating love along the way. “And in time you learn to recognize a love overlooked. A slice of burned toast that tastes like love.” (4 - 8 Years)

In a companion piece in *Time*, author Kate DiCamillo mused on “Why Children’s Books Should Be a Little Sad.” A friend told DiCamillo that when she was young she read *Charlotte’s Web* over and over, “I knew for a fact that it wasn’t going to turn out differently... And I found out that I could bear it... That was what I needed to hear. That I could bear it somehow.” 🍷



Join us for worship!

Sunday Service Times

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

May 13

Rev. Carla Aday Preaching

May 20

Gen. 11:1-9, Acts 2:1-12

Dr. Mike Graves Preaching

Pentecost Sunday

May 27

Dr. Mike Graves Preaching

The Well

Individuals are needed to help staff The Well gift and book shop on Sunday mornings. There are two shifts each Sunday, 8:30-10:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Volunteers are asked to commit to one Sunday each month. Training provided. Contact Anne Haraughty for more information anneh@cccckc.org.

Do You Follow Us?



Adult Classes and Group Fellowship Opportunities

Table Talk Book Signing

Mike will sign copies of his latest book, *Table Talk*, in The Well on Sun., May 6. The book is available for purchase in The Well, and Mike will be available all morning that day.

Faithpub

Hosted by Dr. Mike Graves, May 17, 7:00-8:00 p.m. The guest speaker for May is Bill Stancil, Professor of Theology and Religious Studies at Rockhurst University. This 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.



FaithPub

Music Series

The Kansas City Chorale will present "Music of the British Isles" in our sanctuary on Sun., May 6 at 2:00 p.m. Enjoy a sampling of Britain's rich history of choral traditions with works by Elgar, Parry, Dove, and Vaughn Williams, and The Beatles. Country Club Christian Church members may buy discounted tickets for \$12.50 at the door.

KC Guitar Society Casual Concert Series in the Chapel on Sundays at 3:30 p.m. May 20, Bráulio Bosi, guitar. Performance is free and open to the public.

Kantorei Summer Choral Institute Concert, Sat., June 30, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary. We are pleased to host the final concert of the Kantorei Summer Choral Institute. Kantorei is a non-profit choral institution based in Kansas City, MO.

Christopher Houlihan, organist, Tues., July 3, 2:00 p.m., Sanctuary. World-renowned organist, Christopher Houlihan, will be performing in our sanctuary as part of the National Convention of the American Guild of Organists. Concert tickets may be purchased here: <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/producer/3176883>

Meditation

Meditation is offered in our George Gordon Prayer Room on Wednesdays at noon. Everyone is welcome. The session begins with a brief introduction to meditation, followed by 20 minutes of meditating and five minutes of sharing the experience. Those who are able may choose to spend a few more minutes on reflection.

Metro Mission Serve and Share

Collection Connection

In May, our Collection Connection is gathering small/children's gardening hand tools for the summer educational programs at Grace United Community Ministries (GUCM). GUCM's summer camps educate kids in the art and joy of community gardening: planting, caring for the gardens with weeding, watering and fertilizing of the raised beds and fruit orchard on the campus of GUCM. Children need a small hand shovel and rake and pair of small gardening gloves. Please bring donations to the Parlor.

Grants and Mission Team to Meet with FEDICE

Our church members active in grants, mission trips, and global partnerships are meeting with Blanca Puma the Executive Director of FEDICE, a Global Ministries partner in Ecuador. FEDICE's mission is to empower communities through holistic and sustainable development. Come join us this Sunday, May 6th at 10:00am in Room 309 to hear more about Blanca and FEDICE.

Serve at Micah Ministry on Mon., May 14

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 opportunity will be on Mon., May 14. Meet in the chapel lot at 4:30 p.m. to carpool. Return to church at 7:30 p.m.

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.

Hartman Elementary Field Day

Come join us May 23 for a fun day of games and activities with Hartman Elementary School. We have morning and afternoon sessions available. Please see Majorie Jump in the Parlor the next few Sundays to sign up and ask any questions.

Fall Houston Mission Trip

Looking for an opportunity to serve over Labor Day Weekend? Corey Meyer and Mike Graves will lead a long-weekend trip, August 30th to Sept. 3 to Houston for hurricane recovery work with Disciples Home Missions. Sign ups and information on cost will be available soon.



a message from staff

Five Generations of Love

By Lara Schopp, Director of Communications



A couple of weeks ago, when Carla was preaching about the history of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), my mom passed me a note written on the bulletin: “Your grandmother always said her father was a Campbellite.” My great grandfather was a Disciples of Christ minister, the kind who traveled around preaching at small-town churches in rural Iowa. He followed the teachings of Alexander Campbell, who is commonly associated with the founding of the movement we now recognize as our denomination. His copy of *The Marginal Chain-Reference Bible*, (copyright 1908, the year before my grandmother was born), its leather cover frayed and worn, sits on my desk.

Over the last few weeks, as we’ve celebrated our Legacy of Love campaign and looked into the history of our denomination and our church, we have heard from church members who’ve been here for generations: Bill Hopkins, who has met every senior minister, “from Combs to Carla;” John Stewart and Shelle Jensen, who represent three generations; Jeff and Kristi Gibbs, whose family has deep roots here; Jeff Zimmerman and his granddaughter, Amelia Hicks, who was just baptized with the 2018 Pastors’ Class.

As I was thinking about my own family, I realized that my daughter, Caroline, is a fifth generation Disciple. At age 13, that is probably meaningless to her, but to me it represents a Legacy of Love passed down from our ancestors. I picture Rev. John Harris traveling from town to town sharing the good news of God’s grace. I recall my grandmother filling communion trays in the darkened sacristy. I see my dad singing in the choir and my mom becoming our home church’s first female deacon. I remember being taught that God loves and calls us to love, and God forgives, and if you know these things, that’s pretty much all you need to know.

Today, I watch Caroline know that God’s grace is alive and powerful, and meant for all people, and I am moved and grateful for this legacy. What is God if not the gift of being loved, and learning to love, shared among family?

Introducing The Parent's Pencil

Preschool and Parent's Day Out Launches Forum

Our Parent's Day Out teachers have collaborated to create an environment to ask questions and have discussions regarding various aspects of parenting and child development with both peers and professionals. The theme for our soft opening will be What to Do When: Creating Consistency from Home to School. It will be held Wed., May 16 in the Social Hall from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

To register to attend and reserve childcare, email theparentspencil@gmail.com. Registration deadline is Sun., May 13. Cost is \$10 for individuals, \$15 for couples, and \$5 per family for childcare.

Circles of Care

Beginning in June, Elders and Deacons will be organized into Circles of Care which include one homebound elderly or infirm church member. Our homebound member will be visited with communion once a month by Circle members.

“The Circles of Care,” explains Brian Campbell, “will provide a community for those who can’t participate in our regular services. They are a part of our church family and we value them.” Campbell is nominated to serve as the Chair of the Elders and Deacons for 2018-19.

Circles of Care will provide more consistent opportunities for our Elders and Deacons to develop prayerful relationships with our homebound members. As Circle members get to know their homebound member and one another, they will be better equipped to pray together and to be aware of the changing circumstances of our elderly or infirm member.

“I am really excited about the new Circles of Care,” says Greg Lear, Co-Chair of the Congregational Care Ministry Team, “because this will allow Elders and Deacons to form an ongoing relationship with someone in our congregation who is not able to be at church.”

Elders and Deacons may choose to organize themselves into a particular Circle by signing up on the charts in the parlor. Elders and Deacons may elect to serve in more than one Circle. The remaining Elders and Deacons will be provided a Circle assignment. To the extent possible, requests for a Circle to call on a particular elderly or infirm member will be honored. Church members who are not an Elder or Deacon may serve in a Circle, please see Rev. Joe Walker to make arrangements to participate. For more information visit www.cccckc.org/circles-of-care

Student Ministries

Senior Sunday and Brunch May 6

Graduating seniors will be honored at the 11:00 worship service and enjoy a celebration brunch following worship, in the Social Hall.

Youth Choir

All youth ages 6th- 12th grade are invited to come to choir rehearsals from 12:00-12:45. The youth choir will sing in worship on May 6.

Middle School End of Year Celebration

Friday, May 18, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. Current 6th - 8th graders are invited for an outing for dinner and an adventure to the Escape Room. Participants will meet at Escape KC at (95th and Metcalf at 5:30), have dinner and then try their team work skills at the escape room. Cost is \$20. RSVP to April at aprilb@cccckc.org.

High School End of year Celebration Lock-In

Friday, May 18 - Sat., May 19, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 a.m. Current high school students will celebrate the end of the school year with an outing and lock-in at church. 9th - 12th graders will gather at church for dinner then head out to play paintball returning to church for an overnight. Cost is \$20 and 2 canned goods. RSVP to April at aprilb@cccckc.org.

High School Mission Trip

Sun., June 17 - Sat., June 23, Nashville, TN
Youth completing 9th - 12th grades this year are invited to join in the trip to Nashville where we will work the City Service Mission. We'll work with local organizations and learn about challenges facing many families. Registration limited. For more information, contact April at aprilb@cccckc.org.

Middle School Mission Trip

Sun., Aug. 5 - Wed., Aug. 8, St. Louis, MO
Students completing grades 6-8 this school year are invited to attend the service/learning trip to St. Louis. The group will be staying at the Urban Mission Inn housed at Union Avenue Christian Church. We will be serving with partner organizations of the church. For full details, email April at aprilb@cccckc.org.

Children and Families

Service Circus – Vacation Bible School.

Sign up now for Service Circus:

Seeing God in Acts of Service.

Dates are June 25-27 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Programming is for children ages 3 through 5th grade.

Register and volunteer at www.ccccckc.org/vbs2018/.



Children's Choir

For grades kindergarten - 5th grade Rehearsals are on Sundays, 10:45-11:30 a.m., Rm. 213. The choir is preparing to sing in the 11:00 a.m. worship service on May 13.

Family Worship Night

Sun, May 20, 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.



First Friday

Food, fun and fellowship for 3rd-5th graders. Join us in the Social Hall on June 4, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Dinner provided.

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.

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



Each spring and fall, our Grace at Work service day draws folks who are interested in giving back to the community. But it also becomes a day of great fellowship and fun, among our member and our partner agencies. This spring's event was no exception. Thanks to all who participated, and to our partner agencies, Cross-Lines Community Outreach, Inc, Independence Blvd Christian Church -home of The Micah Ministry, Grace United Community Ministries, Harvesters - The Community Food Network, and Hartman Elementary School.



Infant Dedications

On Sun., Apr. 29, we dedicated two infants into the life of our church family.



Elizabeth Grace Jones, daughter of Ryan and Quinn Jones



Liam Alexander O'Neill, son of Jacob and Alejandra O'Neill

Connections



Thank you to everyone that attended the April "Connections" Social. Connections are gatherings for men and women in Their Mid-20s to Mid-40s. Please email christajessup@gmail.com if you would like information about future monthly socials. All are welcome!

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SAVE THE DATES



Stewardship Campaign

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Guest Gathering – May 6, 10:00 a.m., in the library.

High School Senior Brunch – May 6, 12:15 p.m.
For graduating seniors and their families.

High School End of Year Celebration Lock-In
Fri., May 18 - Sat., May 19, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 a.m.

Middle School End of Year Celebration – Fri.,
May 18, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Outdoor Worship – Outdoor worship starts May 27 and continues through Aug. 12. Join us on the front lawn during the 9:00 a.m. hour.

Vacation Bible School – June 25-27. For children ages 3 through 5th grade.

For the full church calendar, visit our website at

CCCCKC.org

Follow us!

