



COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

From the Senior Minister

The Law of Love



Rev. Carla Aday

God said to Abraham, "Go from your father's house to the land that I will show you." So Abraham went in

search of this so-called land of milk and honey. And God said to Moses, "Bring my people out of Egypt." And Moses at first resisted, but eventually led the people through the Red Sea to freedom. Migration of groups of people across the globe has been unfolding for thousands of years, maybe since the beginning of human history. So today when we read about the complex controversies swirling in the public dialogue related to migration from the south and from the east, we are not reading about a new challenge.

The question of how to co-exist haunted the folks in the Bible as well. Ancient Israelites wondered if they should intermarry and adopt the customs of the local inhabitants. And Jesus shocked the religious elites by reaching out to those everyone assumed were unholy: women, foreigners, those of ill repute.

Last night at Vacation Bible School the children were taught the meaning of the word refugee and what our church does to prepare homes for those arriving in Kansas City. The teacher used Lego blocks and toy



Pat Martin will serve as chair of the congregational board for the 2018-2019 year. Pat has been a member of the church for 30 years, having first been drawn here by former Senior Minister Dr. Gene Brice's preaching and the beauty of our sanctuary.

Pat has served in many previous leadership positions at the church, including deacon, elder, chair of the elders, board treasurer, as a Sunday school teacher, chair of the worship ministry team, and on a senior minister search committee.

Pat was born and raised in Independence and had a career as a certified public accountant. She and her husband, Jim, were married for 31 years before he passed away in 2012. Their two sons, Patrick and Christopher were raised in the church.

Pat's goal for her term as chair is that we grow as a church both in size and spirit, reaching out into our community to help those in need while supporting each other.

"I am honored and humbled to be leading this congregation and am looking forward to a very positive and exciting year in the life of the church," she said.



Brian Campbell has been selected by the elders to serve as that group's chair for the 2018-2019 year. Brian has been a member of the church for 20 years.

He was drawn here by the music and by former Senior Minister Dr. Bob Cueni's preaching.

He has served in many leadership roles, including as deacon, elder, music ministry team chair, on the personnel committee, the Celebration Dinner and Auction committee, the nominating committee and as a member of the board.

Brian joined the church with his wife, Elizabeth, after moving to Kansas City from St. Louis. After Elizabeth passed away, he recalls that he and his family were helped by many people from the church during that difficult time. He is currently married to Amy Brown and together they have six children and four grandchildren. Brian works for Sprint.

"Our church is currently feeling a new energy because of all the positive changes that have been made in the past year," Brian said. "It is my goal to help the elders lead the church to new levels of involvement."

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From the Senior Minister

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figurines to explain the journey from war-torn nation, to tent city, to new homeland. Then the children sorted packets of children's clothes for the refugees and drew handmade cards to welcome newly arrived refugees. Two of the children spontaneously walked over towards the packets of clothing and carefully tucked their hand drawn notes under the rubber band that held the packets of clothing together. And when the teacher left the room, one of the children went over and picked up the toy children and gently placed them inside the lego house, tucking them carefully into the beds.

God must have known what God was doing when God sent a child to lead us. For through the hearts of children, our hearts are made pliable again. And we are compelled to seek solutions for the common good that begin with the law of love.

Grace and peace,

Carla

Max Deweese Golf Tournament



Attention all golfers: Sign up now for 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. Sign up and pay electronically at cccckc.org/golf-tournament.

Renowned Organist to Perform in Sanctuary



Organist Christopher Houlihan will perform in the Sanctuary on Tues., July 3 at 2:00 p.m. Houlihan has performed at Disney Concert Hall with principal brass of the Los Angeles

Philharmonic; the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia and at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. He was appointed to the John Rose College Organist-and-Directorship Distinguished Chair of Chapel Music at Trinity College in Hartford, CT, in 2017, succeeding his teacher John Rose. He was previously artist-in-residence at Trinity, as well as Director of Music and Organist at the Church of the Holy Apostles in Manhattan.

The concert, featuring music of Robert Schumann, Herbert Howells, and César Franck, is underwritten by the James and Carlene Neihart Family in memory of Carlene Neihart.



Mrs. Neihart received a bachelor's degree in piano and organ from Pittsburg State and a master's degree from KU. She attended Eastman School of Music and coached privately

with French organists Andre' Marchal and Jean Langlais. Throughout her concert career, Mrs. Neihart performed 400+ recitals throughout Canada, Europe, and the U.S., including six AGO conventions. She also served several Kansas City congregations including St. Andrew's Episcopal; Central Presbyterian; Unity on the Plaza; and the New Reform Temple.

The concert is one of two that will be livestreamed during the AGO convention. Tickets will be available at the door for \$20, cash only.



reflections

Beautiful Fear

Rev. Joe Walker, Minister of Congregational Care



You have probably held a door open for a stranger on countless occasions. Most of the time you received a polite “thank you” or an appreciative head nod. What about those times when your kindness was ignored or the person grumbled something under their breath? That felt a little awkward, didn’t it? But it didn’t stop you from holding a door the next time the opportunity presented itself, right? The occasional rebuff is just part of the cost of paying attention to those around you and being kind to them.

When we think about Jesus modeling for us how to be loving, the first step in his interactions with individuals was that he cared enough to turn his attention towards them. Jesus felt the hemorrhaging woman’s hand brush his garment even in a jostling crowd. Jesus heard the plea of the blind beggar over the chatter of his disciples and the hangers on. Jesus saw the pain on the face of the Samaritan woman at the well even in a social context where they were forbidden to look at one another. Every miracle, every healing conversation began with the simple and accessible – and courageous – step of loving attention.

“Courageous?”

Absolutely. To care enough to enter into someone’s story means we voluntarily become vulnerable to wherever the interaction leads. I often recall the story of The Rich Young Man in this vein. In addition to his financial wealth, Jesus was calling him to surrender the privilege and power he used to control the outcome of most social interactions.

When we befriend an elderly neighbor by helping with little chores or errands we know that someday they will move away – or die – and we will miss them because we have let them into our hearts. Such is the nature of life. When we speak up on behalf of immigrant children our heart aches as if they were our own children. That national crisis may be resolved compassionately – or not. Such is the nature of history.

So we may reasonably fear the possible consequences and costs of loving. At the same time, we believe that we are made in God’s own image and so we cannot be true to the Spirit that beats in our heart or to our very being without daring to care. A friend recently summed it up this way, “If we ignore or tamp down all the bad stuff, we miss all the good stuff, too.”

Our congregation offers a rich variety of ways to engage in caring for and with one another. For instance, next month we will be inviting members and guests to learn more about our Stephen Ministry and how to become a trained caregiver. You are also invited to join one of our new Circles of Care and enjoy meeting one of our homebound members. And we will soon be rolling out a new opportunity to offer an occasional ride to an elderly member or neighbor through the Jewish Family Services JET Express project.

Jesus has shown us that The Way leads through our fears to an ever greater awareness of our capacity to love, to serve, to sacrifice, to laugh with and cry with one another. 🕊



Join us for worship!

Sunday Service Times

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

July 1

Psalm 30

Songs of Life, Part 5:

Picking a Favortie Song

Dr. Mike Graves Preaching

July 8

Psalm 15

Songs of Life, Part 6:

Shower the People

Rev. Carla Aday Preaching

July 15

Rev. Carla Aday Preaching

Musical Guests on July 1

The Pic and Bow, featuring David Smart on guitar and Michelle Gawith, violin/vocals, will be our musical guests in all three worship services on Sun., July 1.

Do You Follow Us?



Adult Classes and Group Fellowship Opportunities

Instructions on Becoming a Disruptive Christian: From Four Who Were



Learn from the lives of four believers who followed Jesus's example as a disruptor of the status quo. Insider, outsider, extrovert or introvert — any one of us

can help shift the way things are to the way things should be. No book to read; no outside study. 7:00-8:00 p.m. Mondays, July 9, 16, 23, 30. Led by Teresa Williams. Rm. 201.

An Evening with Carla and Mike For Young Adults with Children

Young adults with children are invited for dinner and drinks with Mike and Carla and other young parents from Country Club Christian Church. Connect with new friends, share your ideas, and help us dream about the future of young adult ministries at Country Club Christian Church.

Thurs., July 19 at 6:00 p.m. Lesley Holt's Home, 5049 Wor-nall Road, Apt. 8D (middle building)

RSVP to Carla Rauth at carlar@cccckc.org. Child care is available at church. Please note in your RSVP if you will need child care.

Amani Choir

Our interfaith and intercultural singing group, formed in partnership with Della Lamb Community Services, meets Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. at the Kansas City University Alumni Center. Singers of any skill level are invited to join this group. Please email Corey Meyer at coreym@cccckc.org if you wish to join.

Meditation

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

Music Series

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.

Join the Cookie Ministry

Pick up a bag on Sunday and return it with two dozen home-baked cookies, brownie bites and/or homemade breads cut into quarters for Sunday fellowship. Return filled bags to baskets in the Parlor next Sunday. Cookies are needed every week and will be frozen for use in coming weeks.

Metro Mission Serve and Share Collection Connection

During the month of July we are collecting stainless forks and spoons for Cross-Lines Community Outreach's Food Kitchen. A three decade partnership continues between Country Club Christian Church and Cross-Lines Community Outreach Food Kitchen. We provide the groceries and cooks and serve lunch the first Tuesday of each month.

Northeast KC Summer Concert Series

Come join our Northeast Kansas City neighbors in Con-course Park for a free summer concert series every third Friday of the month. Hosted by Northeast Arts KC, this event is a wonderful opportunity to play, get to know, and enjoy music with our neighbors with whom we do mission and outreach work in Northeast KC. For more information visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/northeastartskc.

Fall Houston Mission Trip

Looking for an opportunity to serve over Labor Day Weekend? Corey Meyer and Mike Graves will lead a long-week-end trip, August 30th to Sept. 3 to Houston for hurricane recovery work with Disciples Home Missions. Please email Corey Meyer at coreym@cccckc.org for more information.

Virginia Reed Food Drive

Our Virginia Reed Food Drive is collecting peanut butter and jelly for the month of July. Bring items to the parlor on Sun., July 15. Another way to participate is to make a financial contribution to the church. Mark your check or giving envelope "food drive". You may place these gifts in the offering plate during worship.

Your gifts support the five area food pantries that our church supports: Community Christian Church, La Gloria de Dios Christian Church, First Christian Church, Della Lamb Community Services and Cross-Lines Community Outreach.



a message from staff

The Future Is Bright

By Elizabeth Pfalzgraf, Assistant Director of Children and Student Ministries



Last week we said “see you soon” (not goodbye) to our fearless leader Chuck Pickrel, as he ventures forward in the journey that God has called him to take. We will miss him dearly, but I know that he will continue to spread his gifts, love and endless amount of fun games!

Whenever there is change, for anything in our lives, we sometimes are left with questions or even worries about what might be to come. Coming from someone who might be considered “A-Type” (likes everything to be well planned out, doesn’t like change, maybe even some “control” issues) I can say that I am so excited about our next chapter! Oprah Winfrey once said “When I look into the future, it’s so bright it burns my eyes.” Do any of my fellow optimists feel that this speaks to your soul?

Our Student Ministry has such a strong foundation, built and sustained by our lay leaders and youth themselves, that it leaves those of us (staff) to just do the fun stuff! Our new Youth Minister, Tyler Heston, came for a meet and greet during the Backyard Bash on June 13 where he had a very small taste of KC BBQ! (He will need some further exposure before he can agree that KC BBQ is the best!)

He also had the opportunity to meet with many other staff members including me! We probably could have sat for hours talking about all the great things we would like to see for our students; unfortunately, we had a time schedule and are excited to pick back up in a few weeks. One takeaway that stuck with me was that part of his “vision” for our students centers on the great things that have already been in place! He hopes to gain the voice of our youth into the planning for our Student Ministry and how the church can support them in all areas of their lives. I am so excited for him to get to experience all that I love about our students and ministry and for him to guide us as we continue to grow and strengthen our spiritual connection. ☺

Our Church Family

In Sympathy

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

Lucille Armacost
Robert Legg
Jay Wooldridge

Special Gifts

Clayton Hasser, gifts to Della Lamb

Louise Birkhead
Gus and Susan Birkhead
Rick and Jean Birkhead
Evan and Wendy Birkhead
Ann Brabson
Julie Brunner
Michael and Jacqueline Cunningham
Alan and Susan Garner
Shirley Hansell
Karen and Harold Johnson
Charolotte Krebs
Pat Martin
Teresa Martin
Jill Reynolds
Patricia Stratton
Juanita White

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.

Maurice Brownlee

The Curry Family
C R and Caroline Hopkins
Ronelle Neperud

Student Ministries

Personnel Update

Chuck Pickrel has tendered his resignation as our Director of Student Ministries. Chuck has served our church for three and a half years and has built strong relationships with our students and we will miss him. We are grateful that Chuck will serve a sister congregation in Olathe.

Middle School Mission Trip

Sun., Aug. 5 - Wed., Aug. 8, St. Louis, MO

Students completing grades 6-8 this school year will stay at the Urban Mission Inn housed at Union Avenue Christian Church in St. Louis. For full details, email April at aprilb@cccckc.org.

Middle/High School Summer Happenings

Youth (finishing 6th-12th grades) are invited to summer gatherings including swimming, games, and outdoor fun. Sunday evenings, July 8 and 22, from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Save the dates and watch the weekly email to youth families for full details.

FLASH MOVIE

Be aware! Check your texts and emails for a 24 hour heads-up about meeting Elizabeth for a movie on the Plaza. This summer Elizabeth will text info about meeting for a movie with 24 hours notice and full details. Your movie ticket will be on us – you bring money for snacks! Middle and High School students are invited. To make sure you are included, send April aprilb@cccckc.org the cell number where you want to receive the invite.



High School youth traveled to Nashville for a service/learning trip with CityServeMission. While in Nashville, they helped with a city based day camp in the mornings and served at several local non-profits in the afternoons. From shared discussions, meals and experiences, the youth wrestled with problems of poverty, injustice and racism in Nashville and our country,

Children and Families

Vacation Bible School Family Fun Day

Sun., July 1, children who participated in Service Circus VBS will gather at 10:30 a.m. in the Social Hall to practice the songs they are leading at the beginning of the 11:00 service. You can pick your child up immediately following their songs or you can pick them up from childcare on the 2nd floor after the service.

Following the 11:00 join us for lunch on the front lawn with games, a bounce house, KONA ice, a waterslide and more!

Incredible Faith in Children's Sunday School



From beginning to end the Bible is filled with INCREDIBLE stories of heroes whose faith in God allowed them to be used by God to make a difference in the world. Sunday School classes will explore various biblical characters and come to know the many INCREDIBLE men and women in the bible.

Infant Dedication on June 24



Millie Christine Leaman, daughter of Alex and Claire Leaman, was dedicated on Sun., June 24. Pictured with brother Max.



Kids practicing yoga at the Backyard Bash.



Christian Community Camp 2018



Fifty-two Community Campers enjoyed a week of hiking, horseback riding, fishing, crafting, relaxing and intergenerational fun at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park, Colorado. If you'd like to experience all that Community Camp offers next year, we would love to share this experience with you. Registration for 2019 is open and available online at <http://www.cccckc.org/community-camp-2019>.

New Members Welcomed

On Sun., June 24, we celebrated the gift of membership and welcomed several new members into our church family.



Jeremy McElduff,
New Member Host:
Scott Branton



Glenn Mills
New Member Host:
David Hunter



Vicki and Paul Tucker
New Member Hosts:
Lynn and John Cockle

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Return Service Requested

Program Staff

Rev. Carla Aday
Senior Minister

Dr. Mike Graves
Scholar in Residence

Rev. Corey Meyer
Director of Mission Partnerships

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

Rev. Joe Walker
Minister of Congregational Care

Jason Ashley
Director of Operations

Rachel Clement
Director of Finance

Paul Cutelli
Director of Technology

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

Barbara George
Director of Membership
Development

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

Anne Haraugthy
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
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Dr. Paul Tucker
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SAVE THE DATES



Outdoor Worship – Outdoor worship continues through Aug. 12. Join us on the front lawn during the 9:00 a.m. hour. The Pic and Bow, featuring David Smart on guitar and Michelle Gawith, violin/vocals, will be our musical guests in all three worship services on Sun., July 1.

Family Fun Day – Sun., July 1. VBS participants will sing at the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Join us at 12:15 p.m. for lunch, games and snow cones on the front lawn.

Backpack Blessing – Sun., Aug. 19. All school-aged children are invited to bring their backpacks to worship at 11:00 a.m. for a prayer for the new year.

Festival Sunday – Sun., Sept. 9, Help us mark the beginning of a new year of spiritual growth opportunities for children, students and adults. Featuring a picnic lunch after worship with bounce house and games.

Max Deweese Golf Tournament – Fri., Sept. 21, at Swope Memorial Golf Course

Community Camp – July 27 – Aug. 3, 2019. Online registration available.

For the full church calendar, visit our website at

CCCCKC.org

Follow us!

