

# COUNTRY CLUB CHRIST CHRIST

COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

# From the Senior Minister Vacation



acation begins with the word vacate. We begin by wrapping up at work or home and heading out of town. Set up a tent, take a flight, or get on a

Rev. Carla Aday

boat. Take leave. Get out.

Vacations are not just about fun. Oh sure we build sand castles, play golf, hike a mountain. But there is more than just catching up on sleep and relaxing. You also catch up with friends or savor some family time. But still there is more to a good vacation than just getting away and entertaining ourselves.

What makes for a truly good vacation? I think that even the ancient followers of God struggled with this question. When Moses gives the 10 commandments, each command takes up about one line or verse. But the commandment to rest occupies four verses. Somehow they needed to be convinced that resting was not a waste of time.

All summer, Dave and I have been looking forward to going to the beach with all our kids and grandkids. Now that the day has drawn near, I wonder if it will be all we dreamed it would be. After that I will spend time in the mountains at a monastery alone. I'm already wondering if I will 'accomplish' all I want to during that

# 9:01 Service Begins Aug. 19

oin us as we launch this new casual, family friendly, worship format that honors our traditional worship space while reaching people with a timely message for today. This service features:



- Casual atmosphere and attire; you really can come as you are.
- Lively and engaging music, drawing from the best of historic hymns and new songs, including Murphy Smith on bass and Brandon Wilkens on saxophone.
- Families with children participating by lighting candles, reading scripture, and collecting offering.
- Children's blessing and moment for children before they depart to age-appropriate activities for the second half of the service.
- A time of prayer and sermon in the second half will allow adults to be fully present and focus on God.

This service is designed make it easy and comfortable for younger children to participate. Tell a friend and plan to join us on Aug. 19. For more information on the children's activities during the second half of the service, see page 6.

## Festival Sunday is Sept. 9



Festival Sunday marks the beginning of a new year of spiritual growth opportunities for children, students and adults. Join us for lunch, bounce houses, live music and more after worship. Sandwiches, sides, and dessert provided by Cosentinos. \$8/person, maximum \$30/ family. Cash and credit cards accepted. Guests are complimentary.

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#### From the Senior Minister

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week of "rest."

So I am trying to remember, and maybe you need to remember it too, that God calls us to pause every so often. The poet David White wrote that "We withdraw, not to disappear, but to find another ground from which to see."

Praying for all of us to find that ground,

arla

# Celebration of Membership, Sept. 16

Join us on Sun., Sept. 16 for a Celebration of Membership during the 11:00 a.m. worship service as we welcome new members to our church family and give thanks for all of you who are part of our community. Whether you've been a member for life or just joined our congregation recently, we invite you to help us celebrate that morning with a reception at noon.



Sun., Aug. 19 is the annual Backpack Blessing. All school-aged children and youth are invited to bring their backpacks to worship at 9:01 and 11:00 a.m. for a prayer for the new year. Children will also be promoted to their next grade/age level in Sunday School.



Charlotte Blake Goering, daughter of Sara and Alex Goering, was dedicated on Sun., July 29.

# Max Deweese Golf Tournament



Country Club Christian Church golf tournaments date back as far as 1932, as pictured above. No ties required at this year's tournament.

#### Registration Deadline is Sept. 1.

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 or in the parlor on Aug. 19.

# reflections

# Worship Anew

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



eeing parents help a child find the page in the hymnal to follow along with the rest of us...

Noticing a dad walk with his young daughter in the back of the sanctuary giving her space to be part of worship in a way that works for them...

Watching a young child stand on a pew to get a better view of the bell choir and all the shiny bells being used...

Smiling as I hear the gasp of a young worshipper near me when the music reaches a crescendo and envelopes the sanctuary with glorious notes....

Delighting in a younger child greeting an elderly church member during joyful communion...

These are all moments that help remind me why encouraging parents and families to bring children into worship is so important. Young, wiggly, energized worshippers are central to our church, to our congregation and most importantly to living God's love. Even though my boys are teens, I can still recall the years when they were young and restless and had many questions about 'what is happening.' But in time and with practice they eased into their way of worshipping and found parts of the worship service with which to connect. I miss being invited into the wonder with which they saw the sanctuary with its high ceilings and beautiful stained glass. I long to experience the music through their fresh ears as they would suddenly stop whatever they were doing, lift their heads and open their mouths as the organ melodies danced across the pews.

Worship is a central part of who we are as a congregation and should be experienced by all. It can feel a bit challenging having children in worship – particularly for the parents. Yet seeking to make the worshipping life of the congregation accessible to all ages is vital to the faith formation of both young and older alike. It is when we gather as a community of many ages, various backgrounds and diverse family units that we fully embody the love of God and share it with one another.

If you are a parent with children, I invite (encourage) you to bring your children to worship. And if you are worshipping on Sunday I invite you to welcome the children and celebrate anew the sacred experience they share with us all!



Join us for worship!

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

#### August 12

John 21:25 Reading John for Dear Life Part 5: Finding God on Weekdays Dr. Mike Graves Preaching

#### August 19 - Backpack Blessing

Why Worship, Part 1 Dr. Mike Graves Preaching

#### August 26

Why Worship, Part 2 Dr. Mike Graves Preaching



# Adult Classes and Group Fellowship Opportunities

#### Wednesday Morning Bible Study Resumes

Studying the Acts of the Apostles, led by Joe Walker. Light reading and conversation. Order textbook in The Well (\$10). Room 303. Beginning Sept. 5, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

#### **Understanding Your Grief Series**

Ten Essential Touchstones for Finding Hope and Healing led by Rev. Mary Linda McDonnell. From the book's foreword: "Think of your grief as a wilderness. To find your way out, the touchstones are your trail markers. They are the signs that let you know you are on the right path." Workbook \$15. Room 207. Thursdays, Sept. 6-Nov. 15, 2:00-3:00 p.m.

#### **10:01 Connections**

For those ages mid-20s-mid-40s. Led by Mike Graves, Lesley Holt, and Jennifer Austenfeld. Meet and talk with others living similar life experiences. This gathering will listen to a brief podcast, video, or lecture followed by small-group guided discussion. Starts Sept. 9,10:00 a.m. Rooms 306/307.

#### From Pew to Pulpit

Sermons mostly go in one direction, from pulpit to pew. Preachers talk and people listen. But preaching can go in both directions, and once did in the early church. Together, we will think about how preachers prepare sermons and work on one that Dr. Graves will preach on Sun. Sept. 23. Led by Dr. Mike Graves. Mondays, Sept. 10 and 17, 7:00 p.m. Social Hall.

#### Faithbook

Women exploring spiritual matters and forming friendships. After a brief presentation/lesson, break into smaller groups for discussion and sharing. Come and go as your schedule permits on Tuesday evenings or Wednesday mornings. Led by Carla Aday, Joe Walker, Mike Graves, Catherine, Corey, and Tyler. Childcare is available by request. Wednesday mornings 9:00-10:30a.m. Sept. 12 – Nov 14 OR Tuesday evenings 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Oct. 2 and Nov 6. Youth Center.

#### FaithPub

Led by Mike Graves with guest speakers each gathering, this group for men of all ages provides space to connect with other men looking for sacred conversations around stuff that matters. 7:00 p.m. at Bier Station. Thurs., Sept. 20: Rev. Corey Meyer, Director of Mission Partnerships.

#### **Thank You Bakers**

Thank you to all of the bakers who have contributed to our Cookie Ministry. Please keep them coming! Cookies are needed every week and will be frozen for use in coming weeks. 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.

# Metro Mission Serve and Share

#### 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, Aug. 30 to Sept. 3 to Houston for hurricane recovery work with Disciples Home Missions. Please email Corey Meyer at coreym@cccckc.org for more information.

#### Take the Stage Friend-Raiser/Fundraiser.

Aug. 18, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. A jazz brunch featuring music by professional artists who have been part of the Take the Stage family one of Country Club Christian Church's partner agencies. There is no ticket/cost for the invite, ut donations are welcome. Contact Corey Meyer at coreym@cccckc to RSVP.

#### **Collection Connection**

Our Collection Connection is currently collecting both new and gently used school uniforms for the children at Hartman Elementary. Khaki or navy pants and navy polo shirts, in sizes 6, 8, and 10 especially needed. Please leave your donations in the basket. Monetary donations marked "school uniforms" also needed.

#### Hartman School Partnership

Country Club Christian Church is entering its ninth year partnering with Hartman Elementary School. We support, encourage and assist students, teachers and support staff throughout the school year. Volunteer opportunities are diverse and are offered at various times. Choose from ongoing activities such as tutoring, serving in the LINC after-school program, or preparing BackSnacks. One-time special events are also offered at different times of the year. Stop by the Parlor Aug. 19 or 26 for more information or to sign up.

#### Virginia Reed Food Drive

This month our Virginia Reed Food Drive invites you to help build a mountain of macaroni and cheese. Throughout August, bring your donations (or check or cash) and let's see if we can reach the ceiling in our parlor!

# a message from staff\_

# Two Steps Toward Inner Peace

Paul Cutelli, Director of Technology



Peace - /pēs/ - noun - freedom from disturbance; quiet and tranquility.

I n the tumult of everyday living, I have noticed I lack peace in my life. From the stresses of deadlines, troubling current events, dramas, and an inundation of information, I often find

myself wanting to hide. So much in so in fact, I have caught myself habitually praying, with more than a little anger and frustration, "God, help me, give me some peace!"... with absolutely no intent in doing anything about it.

Only recently have I confessed to myself that I have been going about this whole "peace" thing wrong. For starters, I ought not to have been asking God to do all the work for me. I stumbled on this Bible verse while looking for ideas for peaceful meditation:

"Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace." –James 3:18

The word that had me musing was make, which was implying that peace is not merely something granted but something created and only after the work was done making it, enjoyed. Step one. I needed to make a conscious effort, not wait for it to come to me, but then next question: how does one actually go about making peace?

I was working through this problem last Sunday when I happened upon a radio show on KCUR with a guest speaker talking about the stoic philosopher Epictetus. I listened intently, thinking the conversation would have some deep thought and I was not disappointed:

"Men are disturbed, not by things, but by the principles and notions which they form concerning things." –Enchiridion, Epictetu

True to his stoic title, Epictetus was reminding me that I was not supposed to let the "stuff" of the world get to me. After all, are not the external events of the world (mostly) beyond our control? I found some real grounding in these words, a truly viable second step. A sense of self-discovered peace for me, I realized, starts with being free from these disturbances.

So step one, realize peace is something you work for, and step two, don't let the outside things crowd out the inside. From there, however, I confess that I am still figuring out step three.

I am curious, though, what steps do you take to find your inner peace? Or perhaps you are like me, trying to find your way on a path to quiet and tranquility, and we are journeying together. Either way, let's look forward to calmer days ahead.

#### Pathways to Learning on Sun. Sept. 16



The Heart of Democracy: Registering, Voting, Standing Up with Rev. Bob Hill, Minister Emeritus from Community Christian Church.

While Christians down through the centuries have prayed for justice, now more than ever, they are realizing the importance of working for it as well. In this interactive presentation, Rev. Hill will speak on the importance of voter registration and social justice.

Pathways to Learning is a series of elective offerings open to everyone, focusing upon 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.- 11:00 a.m. in the Social Hall.



The Crossroads/Outlook Sunday School class helped bake dozens of cookies for the Cookie Ministry. Pictured is Nancy Kupzyk.

# **Student Ministries**

Middle/High School Happenings Middle School Pizza Tour - Aug. 19, noon - 3:00 p.m. Cost \$8.00. (For new 6th-8th graders)

Youth Group info session with Tyler Heston -Aug. 26, 10:00 a.m., Rm. 202. See what's ahead for the 2018-2019 school year.

High School BBQ Tour - Sun., Aug. 26, noon - 3:00 p.m. Cost \$15.00. (For new 9th-12th graders.) (Note this change in date from previous information.)

Serve at Micah Ministry

The next service opportunities at Micah Ministry will be on Mondays, Aug. 13 and Sept. 10. Meet in the chapel lot at 4:30 p.m. to carpool. Return to church at 7:30 p.m. be fed.

#### Sunday Evenings Come Alive

Beginning Sun., Sept. 9, a new format for youth groups will begin. Children in 3rd - 5th grades and youth in 6th -12th grades are invited to join each Sunday evening from 5:00 - 7:00 pm.

#### 3rd - 5th graders

5:00 - 5:30 p.m. Gathering Games 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. Sunday Supper 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Group time

#### 6th - 12th graders

5:00 - 5:30 p.m. Youth Choir 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. Sunday Supper 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Group time (with separate activities for middle and for high schoolers)

Our times together will include opportunities for fun and games, community building, service, and spiritual growth. We are excited for this space to provide a special place for children and youth to connect with their community at church every week.

# modern message. This casual service is designed with families with children in mind. Children will be invit-

ed to participate by lighting candles, reading scripture, and collecting offering. Kids may partake of communion or receive a blessing and hear a children's sermon before departing to age-appropriate activities for the second half of the service. Your children will be escorted to Creator's Place by a member of our staff, allowing you to remain in the worship service for the sermon.

Children and Families

9:01 - Sacred Space/Modern Message

A space for you; a space for your children.

Starting on Aug. 19, our first service becomes 9:01, a service in a sacred space – our Sanctuary – with a

#### Children's Choir

We hope the 9:01 format makes participation in Children's Choir a possibility for more families. Alex and Sara Goering will lead Children's Choir from 9:45-10:05 a.m. on the second floor. Children in Creator's Place (having come from the 9:01) will be walked to the choir room and joined by other children. Families attending the 10:00 a.m. chapel service would bring children at 9:45 a.m. to choir, beginning Aug. 19.

Back Pack Blessing and Promotion Sunday

During worship at both 9:01 and 11:00 a.m. on Aug. 19, all teachers and students are encouraged to bring backpacks for a blessing and celebration of the new school year. Children will also be promoted to their next grade/age level in Sunday School. Remember to bring box tops you are collecting for Hartman too!

#### **Festival Sunday**

Sept. 9, Celebrate with our church as we begin a new church year! We'll have water inflatables so make sure to pack a swimsuit and towel!

#### Third Grade Bibles

We will be presenting Bibles to all third grade students during worship on September 9th.

#### **MOPS** Registration

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. For more information or to register for next year email aprilb@ cccckc.org.

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

# **Our Church Family**

In Sympathy

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

#### Judy Lockwood Aileene Embrey

#### Special Gifts

**Jay Wooldridge,** for a park bench for the church grounds in Jay's honor. Donations beyond the cost of the bench will be added to the Mission and Outreach projects for the 2018-19 church year.

Denslow and Sheila Bolte Mary Lynn Clark Nancy Cope Jane and Ed Corley Ann Creason Charles and Marilyn Dreas Ann Ford Jean Francisco Donna and Robert Goodwin Jane and John Marty Maureen McGinty Lisa and Tim Polk Jim Porter **Rose Preut** Joyce Robison Arthur and Ann Stevens John and Martha Jane Stewart The Spangler Family Janet Boone Service Club Jeanne and Perry Cockayne, Congregational Care



#### *church year.* Strickland Construction Company Clayton Hasser,

Congregational Board.

Lucille Armacost

Charles and Marilyn Dreas, *Della Lamb* John and Martha Jane Stewart, *Mission and Outreach* 

Memorials and Tributes

Memorial gifts and gifts honoring loved ones are

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

Jeanne and Perry Cockayne, Congregational Care

placed into the Church's Endowment Funds, unless otherwise noted by the donor, and are used

Merceda Larkin Martha and Thomas Lieser, *Sewing Ministry* 

#### **Bob Legg**

Jeanne and Perry Cockayne, Congregational Care Donna and Robert Goodwin, Backsnack Program John and Martha Jane Stewart, Mission and Outreach

**Mary Lou Proctor Beard** (Mother of Patty Love) Charles and Marilyn Dreas

John Soltys Jeanne and Perry Cockayne, Congregational Care Jane and John Marty Maureen McGinty, Sewing Ministry Martha Jo Strickler, Sewing Ministry Village Presbyterian Church



Eleven middle schoolers joined our new Minister to Youth, Tyler Heston, and Assistant Director of Children and Youth Ministries, Elizabeth Pfalzgraf, on a mission trip to St. Louis. The group was commissioned in worship on Sun., Aug. 5. Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Kansas City, MO Permit No. 1498



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# Return Service Requested

### **Program Staff**

Rev. Carla Aday Senior Minister

Dr. Mike Graves Scholar in Residence

Rev. Tyler Heston Minister to Youth

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

Anne Haraughty Ministries Coordinator Barbara George Director of Membership Development

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

Lindsay Howes Director of Children's Ministries

Lisa McCleish Director of Early Childhood Programs

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

Elizabeth Pfalzgraf Assistant Director of Children and Student Ministries

Lara Schopp Director of Communications

Dr. Paul Tucker Co-Director of Music

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# SAVE THE DATES



**Outdoor Worship** – The last outdoor worship is Aug. 12. Join us on the front lawn during the 9:00 a.m. hour.

**Backpack Blessing** – Sun., Aug. 19. All schoolaged children are invited to bring their backpacks to worship for a prayer for the new year, during the 9:01 and 11:00 a.m. services.

Fall Houston Mission Trip - Aug. 30 to Sept. 3

**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 lunch after worship with bounce house and games.

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

Grace at Work - Oct. 13

Trunk or Treat - Oct. 28

For the full church calendar, visit our website at **CCCCKC.org** 

