



COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sept. 7, 2018 | Vol. 92 No. 18

COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

From the Senior Minister A Sacred Space



Rev. Carla Aday

My rough estimate is that we have experienced a 350 percent increase in children worshipping! I'm comparing the last three Sundays to the same three

Sunday's last year. The energy, vitality, and warmth of the 9:01 service are palpable. When I passed out the stained glass window books to the children at the children's sermon last Sunday, I only gave one to Gus and Henry because they are two-year-old twins. But then one of them came to me with his sad eyes and lamented "I didn't get one." So I smiled and gave him his very own copy.

It reminded me of the Methodist Church I was born into in Texas. I remember kneeling on the red cushion and leaning on the wooden altar rail to receive bread and wine when I was still a toddler. I remember rolling wrapping paper in the wide corridors as my parents' Sunday School class prepared for their annual fundraiser. And I remember rocking on the plastic rocking horse in the nursery. And the man who played a song on his comb during the annual Christmas lights tour. Did those adults have any idea that they were shaping a young life?

Before this church even broke ground on a building, we had formed

continued on page 2

Rev. Carla Aday preaching "The Whole Bible: A Surprising Love Story," based on Deuteronomy 6:1-9 and Romans 8:38-39.

Musical guests:
9:00 a.m. – String Theory Quartet
10:00 a.m. – Erin Wood, harp
11:00 a.m. – Kansas City Brass

3rd Grade Bible presentations at 11:00 a.m.

Lunch, bounce house, and more after worship. Sandwiches, sides, and dessert. \$8/person, maximum \$30/family. Cash and credit cards accepted. Guests are complimentary.

This Sunday is Festival Sunday, the beginning of a new year of spiritual growth opportunities for children, youth and adults.

Greatest Hits of the Bible

New Sermon Series Begins September 16

The Bible is full of familiar stories. Join us in worship in September and October as Rev. Carla Aday and Dr. Mike Graves retell some of the Bible's 'greatest hits.'

Sept. 16 – Part 1 - Abraham and Sarah: Following God without Maps. Based on Genesis 17:1-8 and 15-17. Rev. Carla Aday preaching.

Sept. 23 – Story of Moses. Dr. Mike Graves preaching.

Sept. 30 – Oct. 7 – Jonah's Problem with Forgiveness. Based on Jonah 3:10-4:11 Rev. Carla Aday preaching.

Series continues Sundays through Oct. 21.

IN THIS ISSUE



Check out the 9:01 Service.....	page 2
The American Love Affair by Joe Walker	page 3
So, What's New? by Paul Tucker.....	page 5

From the Senior Minister

continued from page 1

a thriving Sunday School. Our calling has always been to nurture faith in children. And in this fast paced, pressurized and electronical culture our service to young people can be life giving and even life saving. Suicide is now the third leading cause of death among teens. But here, the young may find “sanctuary” a refuge, a warm embrace from the living God.

This summer I received a kind note from one of our teens who is now heading off to college. She spoke with deep affection for this congregation. I thought back on the days when she first came to the children’s sermon. And I thought of how much she has shared with the church in terms of service, mentoring, leadership. Thank you for creating a space here at 61st and Ward Parkway for the young to grow and thrive as children of God.

Grace and Peace,

Carla

30 Years of Grace and Love

Join us in recognizing Rev. Carla Aday’s 30th anniversary at Country Club Christian Church as we celebrate the many ways her leadership and partnership with the people of our congregation have served our community and the world. On Sun., Sept. 30 there will be a reception in honor of our 30 years together in the Parlor following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Rev. Aday was called as the church’s first woman minister in September 1988.

State of the Church

State of the Church Dinner and Update. Tues., Sept. 11, 6:30 p.m. in the Social Hall. Rev. Carla Aday will give a vision update and present the 2017-2018 annual report. Child care available with RSVP to April Booth at aprilb@cccckc.org.

Check Out the 9:01 Service

Here’s what people are saying about 9:01 Sacred Space/Modern Message:

- “I appreciate the effort that is being made to think about families with young children.” - Katie Cronin
- “I really liked the music in the service.” - Erin Feitz
- “My kids loved the opportunity to be a part of the service by lighting candles, and my wife and I enjoyed sharing that moment as a family.” - Travis Wymore
- “I loved feeling all the energy from the outdoor service brought inside and seeing all the activity from the children.” - Mary McClure



Sacred Space • Modern Message



In case you haven’t heard, 9:01 is our new, casual, family-friendly worship format. Designed to make it easy and comfortable for younger children, this service features:

- Relaxed atmosphere and attire
- Lively and engaging music
- Opportunities for young children to participate during the first half
- Age-appropriate activities on the second floor for children during the second half
- Prayer and a timely message for today
- A morning full of life, energy, music and the holy spirit

Join us each Sunday at 9:01 a.m. in our Sanctuary for this service. You’ll find a space for you and a space for your children.



reflections

The American Love Affair

Rev. Joe Walker, Minister of Congregational Care



The automobile— it is quintessentially American, more so than apple pie.

It appeals to both our personal and cultural love of “freedom.”

It becomes an extension of our personality; frugal or flashy, safe or speedy.

We can’t wait to start driving, counting the days to our learner’s permit.

We don’t want to stop driving, dreading the day when we hand over the keys.

Driving can be exhilarating or relaxing, depending on your personality and mood at the moment.

The automobile has fueled economic prosperity, generating business upon ancillary business.

It has inspired marvelous technological innovations—such as the drive-up window.

Our love affair with the automobile and all that it represents is arguably one of the most influential story lines in our national history.

I “get it”; our love affair with our automobiles. As a toddler I was at our local dirt tracks where our family raced. Our son still races. I have limped along in cars that were absolute junk and I have rolled down the road in that black F-150 4x4 with the rumbling pipes.

But as a disciple and a citizen I have to acknowledge the shadow side of this love affair. When we embraced the private automobile as our primary (in many places, sole) means of transportation we left the elderly, infirm, children, and those living in poverty in the dust—literally stranded on the side of the road. As communities, we made little or no provision for those who could not drive or the working poor who could not afford the expense of operating an automobile. The automobile enabled white flight, sprawl, and the dismantling of public transit. Our love affair blinded us to the damage we caused to the environment, leaving a crushing economic and social burden to our grandchildren. Its insatiable thirst for oil has oftentimes unduly influenced our foreign policy.

I mention all this to offer a spiritual context for our church’s new collaboration with the JET Express Rideshare program for the elderly. On one level, JET Express is a pretty simple service provided through our partners at Jewish Family Services. If you drive, you can sign up to be a volunteer and bring an elderly person to church or help them with errands in the community. It is likely that minor adjustments in one’s schedule and route might bring joy to and build a relationship with a neighbor.

But beyond that, this new ministry invites us to prayerfully consider all the ways in which we are called to be faithful stewards of the gift of driving. If one is able to drive, what is the responsibility to share that freedom with others who cannot? How can we be ever more conscientious about weighing the value of a particular trip against its larger social and environmental impacts?

For information on JET Express, call 816-381-9249 or email joew@cccckc.org or visit www.jfskc.org/jet-express. 🍷



Join us for worship!

Sunday Service Times

9:01, 10:00 and 11:00 a.m

September 9

The Whole Bible:

A Surprising Love Story

Deuteronomy 6:1-9 and

Romans 8:38-39

Rev. Carla Aday Preaching

September 16

Greatest Hits of the Bible,

Part 1 - Abraham and Sarah:

Following God without Maps.

Genesis 17:1-8 and 15-17

Rev. Carla Aday preaching

Golf Tournament Raffle

Even if you can’t play in the inaugural Max Dewese Golf Tournament on Fri., Sept. 21, you can still participate by purchasing tournament raffle tickets. The prize is a Callaway Rogue Driver valued at \$499, and tickets are \$10. Proceeds benefit the Veterans Community Project, providing shelter for veterans here in the Kansas City area. Stop by the parlor on Sundays, Sept. 9 and 16 to buy your tickets. For more information, contact Dr. Mike Graves.

Do You Follow Us?



Adult Classes and Group Fellowship Opportunities

Pathways to Learning on Sun. Sept. 16

The Heart of Democracy: Registering, Voting, Standing Up

Led by 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. Visitors and guests welcome. 10:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m. in the Social Hall.

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. Begins with a time of fellowship and doughnuts, followed by a Modified TED Talk on the Bible and spirituality by Mike Graves. Ends with small group discussion that relates to matters of faithful living in the real world. Mike Graves, Lesley Holt, and Jennifer Austenfeld will be the primary leaders. Fall series begins Sunday, Sept. 9 at 10:01 a.m. in rooms 206/207.

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.

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.



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 a rotating of clergy. Child-care is available by request. Wednesday mornings 9:00-10:30 a.m. Sept. 12 – Nov 14 OR Tuesday evenings 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Sept. 18-Nov. 13. Youth Center.

faith
book

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 301. Beginning Sept. 5, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Metro Mission Serve and Share

Collection Connection

Many Micah Ministry guests are either homeless or have had their electricity turned off. In September we are collecting flashlights and batteries for our Micah friends. Dollar flashlights can be purchased with batteries in the camping section at Wal-Mart and at other discount stores.

BackSnack Program

Join a team that provides nutritious food to students in the Kansas City area. This team meets once a month during the school year to fill and deliver BackSnack bags to Hartman and Garfield elementary schools. Volunteers work in the church kitchen on either Wednesday evening or Thursday morning. BackSnack bags are delivered to the schools on Thursday mornings.

Volunteer positions include team member to fill bags with BackSnack; delivery drivers to take BackSnacks to schools on Thursday mornings (drivers are a significant need right now); and substitute to pack at church or deliver to the schools on an as needed basis.

If you can help please contact Donna Goodwin at 913-432-7776 or at dlbgmom@aol.com.

Save the Date for Grace at Work

Half-day service project open to all ages and abilities. Sat., Oct. 13. More information coming soon!





a message from staff

So, What's New?

Dr. Paul Tucker, Co-Director of Music



Each year, at this time, I find myself struggling with conflicting thoughts. School is about to begin again, and while I know from past experience that I won't hate every minute of my teaching job, I never really feel prepared for what is to come. I love teaching, but there is so much that I will have to do in the upcoming semester, I experience some anxiety.

For teachers, the idea is that during the summer break you rest up and get renewed for the new school year. It never seems to work out that way, though. This summer, for instance, I received several requests for performances in the upcoming fall semester. Now, the last thing I want to think about in the summer is a long lineup of performances, in addition to the ones that occur every year. I do not know what my choir is going to be until about two days before the semester begins, and while I want to say yes to the invitations to perform, I am usually reticent to commit without knowing how we will function as a group during the semester. But since there has never been a year when we have failed as a group, there does not seem to be a rational reason to worry.

This summer, however, there was something that promised to be new and exciting and creative, something that would be of value to everyone involved, though it required planning and extra work. Country Club Christian Church embarked on a revitalization of the early service. There were many meetings and walk-throughs of the new 9:01 service. It really wasn't an easy task to settle on the vision for a new approach to this service. Many things had to be factored into the mix.

The planning involved everyone on the church's program staff. Communications, Ministerial, Children and Youth Ministry, Music, Technical, Design, and Physical departments weighed in on how to make this new service effective. The first level of discussions concerned the focus of the service, and other topics were thoroughly explored in turn. Communications, for instance, had the very difficult challenge of figuring out how the service would be promoted and how to give this service a distinctive look. The result has been a fresh worship service that features, very prominently, children, a different musical approach, and a new spirit of worship.

While many aspects of the 9:01 service will be improved as we move forward, a visit to this service will certainly give the congregant a sense of a fresh approach to worship. And it certainly answers the question, "What's New?" 🍷

Our Church Family

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.

Milburn and Evalyn Hobson
Bill and Brucie Hopkins
The Carter Kokjer Family
Deb and Dave Plucknett
Joshua and Stephanie Preut
Karen and Robert Robinson
Bill and Mary Jean Shoop
Norma Tilton

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.

In Honor of Rev. Joe Walker

Gayl Reinsch, *Stephen Ministries*

Aileene Embrey

Gayl Reinsch, *Stephen Ministries*

Gary and Annette Embrey, *Stephen Ministries*

Clayton Hasser

Deb and Dave Plucknett

Bob Legg

Norma Tilton, Mission and Outreach

Judy Lockwood

Jeanne and Perry Cockayne, *Congregational Care*

Greg and Nancy Lear

Jill Reynolds

Bob and Kay Moffat

Mary Lou Proctor Beard, *Mother of Patty Love*

Greg and Nancy Lear

John Soltys

Karen and Robert Robinson

Norma Tilton

Student Ministries

Serve at Micah Ministry

The next service opportunity at Micah Ministry will be on Mon., 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. Youth in 6th -12th grades are invited to join each Sunday evening from 5:00 - 7:00 pm.

6th - 12th graders

5:00 - 5:30 p.m. Youth Choir

5:30 - 6:00 p.m. Sunday Supper (\$3 suggested donation)

6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Group time (with separate activities for middle and for high schoolers)

High School Mission Trip Details

High Schoolers (those completing grades 9-12 for the 2018-2019 school year) will travel on an international mission trip June 6-12, 2019. This trip was originally planned for Nicaragua, where Country Club Christian Church has enjoyed a rich mission relationship with CEPAD, the Council of Protestant Churches in Nicaragua, for more 15 years. Unfortunately, recent months have left Nicaragua in political turmoil and unrest and CEPAD will not receive international groups until further notice. Our hearts are praying for the safety of civilians vulnerable to mob violence during this challenging time.

However, we have found an opportunity to partner with FEDICE, an agency in Ecuador with whom we have close ties. FEDICE has worked for decades to empower indigenous and marginalized communities in the Ecuadorian Andes to break the cyclical chains of poverty, discrimination and injustice. Visit cccckc.org/2019-hs-mission-trip/ for more information about FEDICE, the work they do, and how we might be serving and learning in our time with them.

More details about the trip – including registration, information meetings, and team meetings – will be released soon. Until then, mark your calendars for our trip to Ecuador, and keep Nicaragua in your minds and in your hearts. Stay tuned for more information about the Middle School Mission Trip 2019. We will continue to support CEPAD in a variety of ways as we gear up for our trip to Ecuador, knowing that our partnership with CEPAD is only changing, not ending.

For more information, contact Rev. Tyler Heston, Minister of Youth, at tylerh@cccckc.org.

Children and Families

Footsteps in Faith

1st – 5th grade Sunday School

Beginning Sun., Sept. 9th 1st through 5th graders will experience Sunday School in a new engaging and interactive way. Biblical stories or sacred themes will be taught in four-week sessions with grade levels exploring the story through a different session each week (cooking, storytelling, art, etc).

Our first theme is How the Bible Came to Be beginning Sept. 9 and concluding on Sept. 30.

Club Kids for 3rd – 5th Graders

Begins Sun., Sept. 9. Join us Sunday evenings from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. for a time of games, community building, service and spiritual growth. Dinner provided and a \$3 donation is suggested.

MOPS Begins September 12

Mothers of Preschoolers (birth – K) meets the second Wednesday of each month during the school year in the Social Hall, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. For more information or to register contact April aprilb@cccckc.org.

9:01 - Sacred Space/Modern Message

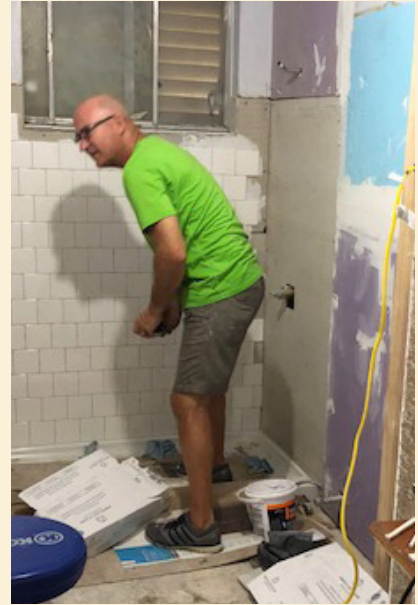
A space for you; a space for your children.

Our first service has become 9:01, a service in a sacred space – our Sanctuary – with a modern message. This casual service is designed with families with children in mind. Children will be invited 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.





Mission Trip to Houston



Dr. Mike Graves and Rev. Corey Meyer led a mission trip to Houston Aug. 30 - Sept. 3. The team worked on the house of a life-long Texas City (Southeast Houston) resident and retired Veteran who has been displaced from his home since Hurricane Harvey. Projects included tiling the shower; texturing and painting walls, hanging doors and trim work around the house.

Infant Dedicated



Alexander Capps was dedicated in worship on Sun., Sept. 9. Pictured above with his mom, Jennifer Capps.

High School BBQ Tour on Aug. 26



Fourteen high schoolers enjoyed the annual BBQ Tour on Sun., Aug. 26, taste testing at Room 39, Jackstack and Gates.



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Dr. Mike Graves
Scholar in Residence

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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

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Rachel Clement
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Anne Haraughty
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Barbara George
Director of Membership
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SAVE THE DATES



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.

State of the Church Dinner and Update – Tues., Sept. 11, 6:30 p.m.

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

Grace at Work – Oct. 13, 8:00 a.m.- noon. Half day service projects.

Trunk or Treat – Oct. 28, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

For the full church calendar, visit our website at

CCCCKC.org

Follow us!

