



CHRISTIAN

Strength for the Journey. Grace for the Soul.

INSIDE

Telling the Truth
to God
by Glen Miles
≈≈≈
page 3

Landscaping About
to Begin
by John Clemmer
≈≈≈
page 5

Nice to Meet You!
by Meredith
Holladay
≈≈≈
page 7

*We joyfully
welcome
and nurture
all people
by providing
a vibrant
Christ-centered
community
of faith,
dedicated to
spiritual growth
through
worship, study
and service.*

Church Branding Project Seeks Your Input

Last year, the Congregational Board initiated a project to study the mission, vision and identity of Country Club Christian Church, laying out a six-phase process to discern what message we want to give the community about who we are as a church, and how our message and identity can honor our past, reflect our theology and serve our neighbor. Now, the project moves into the creative refinement phase, and your input is needed.

For the next month we will be gathering your comments and ideas. You can participate by filling out a Branding Project worksheet, available in the Parlor or online at cccckc.org.

The worksheet reviews key messages about what makes our church distinctive, reviews who we are as a church and who we want to reach, and what we want our church brand to reflect to the community. These messages were gathered from input at the Apr. 27 Town Hall meeting.

You are asked to provide suggestions for new ways to use our current name through a slogan or a "nickname" OR suggestions for a new church name.

To date, a committee has developed objectives for this project and conducted initial research and input was gathered from the congregation at the Town Hall meeting. From that input, the committee developed key messages and criteria

continued on page 2

Join Us for Festival Sunday on August 17

We will celebrate Festival Sunday, the beginning of a new year of spiritual growth opportunities for children, youth and adults, on Sun., Aug. 17.

Worship at 9:00, 10:00 or 11:00 a.m.

- Dr. R. Glen Miles will preach the sermon, "Y'all C'mon In," *Isaiah 56:1-8*.
- 3rd grade Bible presentations at the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services.
- Children from VBS will sing at the 11:00 a.m. service.
- Pick up a Fall 2014 Ministries and Events Guide.
- Children and youth will advance to the next Sunday School grade level.
- Pick up children and youth packets and calendars.

Picnic Lunch – 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m

- Picnic lunch. (\$8 per person, maximum \$30 per family. Guests and visitors complimentary.) Hamburgers and hot dogs served by Two Guys and a Grill from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- Bounce house, games and prizes, food and live jazz music!

Reservations appreciated. Call 816-333-4917 or email marymargareth@cccckc.org. Walk-ins welcome!



Bible Studies and Faith Formation Groups

Childcare will be available for all classes with advance reservation. To register or for information about a specific class, call 816-333-4917.

Faithbook – Women ages 25-66 explore the scriptures and share in friendship and the spirit does the rest! If you don't have time for homework between your work, your family and your volunteering, then this is the class for you. Led by Rev. Carla Aday. The group meets Tuesday evening OR Wednesday morning. Pick the time frame that fits your schedule. Tuesdays, 7:00-8:00 p.m., Sept. 9-Nov. 18. Wednesdays, 9:00-10:00 a.m., Sept. 10-Nov. 19.

Reel Faith – Watch a movie, enjoy pizza and then discuss the movie to see what images of faith are captured by the film. Meet at the Sulgrave Regency Condominiums in the movie theater. Films to be announced. Limit: 14 people. Led by Phil and Patty Love. Four opportunities: Sept. 5, Nov. 16, Feb. 8, June 7. 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study – Designed for senior adults. Meets every Wednesday morning to study the Bible in an effort to create a deeper understanding through lecture and discussion. This year's subject is the Gospel of Mark. Led by Rev. Joe Walker. 9:00 a.m., Rm. 206.

Senior Minister's Bible Study – Join Dr. Glen Miles for an engaging discussion of what the Bible really says about... homosexuality, politics, science and the environment, and other contemporary topics. The final night will be a "Preacher on the Hot Seat" with participants providing the questions for Glen to respond to during the hour. Mon., Oct. 13, 20, 27, Nov. 3, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Creating the Covenant – How do we relate to God? This new class is an eight-week focus on Creating the Covenant. Combining the best of accessible Biblical scholarship and engaging dialogue, this class will appeal to all stages and ages in the spiritual journey.

Men's Class – Wed., Oct. 1-Nov. 19, 7:00-8:30 a.m. Jeff Zimmerman and Phil Love, facilitators.

Parents of Young Children – Sundays, Oct. 5-Nov. 23, 4:00-5:30 p.m. Monica Lewis and Meredith Holladay, facilitators.

Intergenerational Class – Sundays, Sept. 14- Nov. 2, 9:30-11:00 a.m. Lesley Holt and Carla Aday, facilitators

Couple Communication – Couple Communication is an award-winning educational program that teaches you and your partner practical communication skills. Develop confidence to communicate with your partner effectively, creating better resolutions to conflict and increasing satisfaction in your relationship. Couples who were married at the church may take the course for free. Materials cost is \$37. Saturdays, Sept. 27 and Oct. 4.

Soul Mates – If you are recently engaged or recently married, we invite you to participate in Soul Mates, a class designed specifically for you. Each class will be led by experienced facilitators and will focus on cultivating your relationship and discussing topics that are relevant to you. Sundays, Oct. 12-Nov. 9. Contact weddings@cccckc.org.

Church Branding Project Seeks Your Input

continued from page 1

for any potential new name, which were adopted in July by the Congregational Board. This phase of the project will continue with market research and strategy development, as well as a second Town Hall meeting to review options.

Please fill out a worksheet or the online form and return it to the church office by Sept. 15.

We look forward to gathering your information. If you have any questions, please speak with members of the Branding Committee, who will be staffing tables in the Parlor on Aug. 24 and 31.



Telling the Truth to God

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



Telling the truth to God is not as easy it might sound, especially when it comes to prayer. I've given and heard many prayers over the years; at the Communion Table, in hospital rooms, at meals, in Sunday school classes, at weddings and funerals, even at football games. Many times the content of these prayers is focused on what the person thinks God wants to hear. At other times they are mini-sermons with a particular audience in mind.

I recall coming home early several years ago in order to deal with one of my boys who had spent the afternoon in the principal's office. Julie knew I was coming early so she wisely had dinner ready when I walked in the door. I wanted to launch into a lecture on proper behavior but first we sat at the table and prayed. One of the boys, the one in deep trouble at school, volunteered to pray. He said,

"Thank you, God for loving us and forgiving us NO MATTER WHAT!"

Our laughter was our amen. That little prayer helped us, especially me, relax and face the issue of the day (which as it turned out wasn't that big of a deal).

That is what an open and honest prayer life can do: set us free from worry and anxiety while facing whatever hard truth might be in front of us. That honesty defines the difficulty of the task of prayer. I know about a variety of prayer techniques, forms and styles. I've led workshops on how to pray in theologically and ecclesiastically correct language but if I am not willing to pray with openness and honesty then the form, the language and the style are almost irrelevant.

David Jacobsen writes in his book, *Clarity in Prayer*, "If you are talking with someone who already knows the truth, you had best stay close to the facts."

He's right. If prayer is going to have any effect on your life it is a pretty dang good idea to go ahead and be honest about who you are before God. In the long run, that honesty will lead to a refreshed and renewed life of faith.

Grace and peace to you,

Upcoming Visitor Event

We invite all guests and friends of the congregation to attend an upcoming social and informational gathering to learn more about the church, meet the ministers and ask questions about the denomination and congregation. Sun., Oct. 12, 12:15-1:30 p.m. For more information or to RSVP for one of the events, please contact Meredith Holladay at meredithh@cccckc.org.

Worship with us!

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

August 17
Festival Sunday
Y'all C'mon In
Isaiah 56:1-8

August 24
Place Your Life Before God
Romans 12:1-8

August 31
Rev. Carla Aday preaching

Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

Dave Helling to Speak at Lunch and Learn

Tuesday, Sept. 16

Dave Helling, columnist for *The Kansas City Star*, kicks off the Lunch and Learn series with his unique perspectives on local issues on Tues., Sept. 16, at 11:30 a.m. in the Social Hall.



Helling's years of local experience and journalistic excellence will offer keen insights on regional issues and leadership. He is the multimedia reporter for *The Kansas City Star* and a frequent panelist on KCPT's Kansas City Week in Review. Raised in Overland Park, Dave is a 1973 graduate of Shawnee Mission West High School and a 1977 graduate of Creighton University. Among other recognitions, Dave has received the Freedom of the Press Award and three Emmy nominations. Dave returned home to Kansas City in 1984 as an anchor/reporter for WDAF-TV and later became an anchor/reporter for KCTV-5.

Cost for the lunch and presentation is \$10 per person. RSVP to Mary Margaret at marymargareth@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917.

Lunch and Learn is a monthly lunch program with inspiring and informative presentations ranging from personal topics to current and historical events. Everyone is welcome.

Green Team Class

Save the date! On Thurs., Oct. 16, the Green Team will present "The Land Institute – Internationally Famous and Locally Obscure" at 6:30 p.m. The Land Institute is working to reverse the antagonism between agriculture and nature. Using nature as the standard, Land Institute scientists are developing perennial mixtures that can produce food in harmony with the wild. Healthy, natural prairie ecosystems provide the information to direct our paths – information we in large part disregarded when we chose the agriculture of annual grains some 10,000 years ago. Free and open to the public. No registration required. Door prizes. For further information call 816-665-4456.



Visit The Well

The Well, our book and gift store, is on the ground floor of the church. Items from the recent Nicaragua mission trip and devotional books are available. The Well also features gifts for everyone, including wonderful Fair Trade items from around the world. Shoppers will find jewelry, scarves, CDs and handmade items. The proceeds go to Week of Compassion, which provides emergency disaster relief to peoples around the world.



You can also shop at home through Amazon to benefit Week of Compassion. If you use the Amazon search function on The Well's web page, a percentage of the purchase price is directed to Week of Compassion. Go to www.cccckc.org and click The Well in the top right-hand corner, then follow the instructions.



The Well is open on Sunday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Rose Garden Memorial Bricks Available

Honor your loved ones with an engraved memorial brick in the Rose Garden pathway. In addition to inurnment in the Columbarium or the scattering of ashes in the Rose Garden, engraved memorial bricks are available to past and present members and their immediate families. Price is \$350 each and includes brick, imprinting and placement. Contact John Clemmer at 816-333-4917 or johnc@cccckc.org for more information.





Landscaping About to Begin

By John Clemmer, Business Administrator



One of the orange construction fences from the front lawn is gone! I am happy to report that the work by C&M Restoration is virtually complete as I write this and the second orange fence and the cranes should be gone by this Saturday (the 16th).

The final areas of work by C&M were in the area of the front door and octagon turret to the left. The building looks stunning as the final phases of their work are being completed. I invite you to take a look at the front of the church if you haven't lately. The building looks spectacular.

The next phase of the project will include new sidewalks, lighting, irrigation, and landscaping. Some highlights of this phase will include:

- New lighting and additional landscaping at the front is designed to create a more welcoming environment.
- New exterior lighting will highlight architectural features of the church. In addition there will be new bollards to improve lighting. The new LED lights will be energy efficient. Eighteen watt spotlights will light the top of the bell tower.
- New sidewalks will include an expanded area at the front door which will include decorative brick. This enlarged entrance area will be completely surrounded by landscaping including perennials and annuals to add beauty and color. This should be a beautiful place for wedding photos!
- The shrubs in front of the building will be replaced and redbud trees added.
- The front lawn and back lot will have new turf.
- The chapel landscaping was recently updated by volunteers with the Green Team and Grace at Work.

It is very exciting to see the building repairs completed and the final parts of the project about to start. As always we thank everyone for their generous donation of time and energy to make this project possible.

Save the Date: Oct. 5 for Re-dedication of Our Building

Join us on Sun., Oct. 5, as we re-dedicate our 92-year-old building for the next century.

After two years of construction, it's time to celebrate the beautifully refurbished exterior. Our new alabaster stone work will be glistening as we dedicate the church for the years ahead.

Country Club Christian Church was established in October 1920 and the original part of the building was ready for occupancy in 1922. The sanctuary building was constructed next, dedicated on Jan. 24, 1926.

Watch for details about the upcoming celebration.



New Sunday Schedule for Children and Students

Beginning Sun., Sept. 14

Country Club Christian Church's Ministries to Children, Student, and Families is excited to announce new Sunday afternoon and evening schedules for the 2014-2015 academic year. NOTE: We are changing the designation of middle school and high school programming to "student" rather than youth.

Club Kids: Club Kids is now open to children in 1st-5th grades. Join us 2:30-4:00 p.m. for fun and fellowship. We will do our best to schedule outings and service opportunities during these same times throughout the year so mark this on your calendars!

Children and Student Music: We are excited to announce our new semester approach to our Children and Students Music Ministry. Participation in first semester music culminates in our Christmas performance, "Pageant and Praise" on Dec. 14. Children's Music will only meet Sunday afternoons from 4:00-4:30 p.m. Student Music will only meet Sunday afternoons from 4:30-5:00 p.m. Second semester music will culminate in the spring musical.

Student Group: Join other 6th-12th graders for fun, fellowship, service, and a light meal Sunday evenings from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Sunday Schedule

2:30-4:00 Club Kids (grades 1st-5th)
4:00-4:30 Children's Music (grades 1st-5th)
4:30-5:00 Student Music (grades 6th-12th)
5:00-7:00 Student Group (grades 6th-12th)

We are excited about including more children and students in these ministries, adding a Christmas pageant, and focusing on creating a meaningful Sunday morning and Sunday afternoon experience.

You will be receiving a packet of detailed information on Aug. 17, Festival Sunday. This information will also be available on our website. The packet will include a calendar of events for children and students, Country Club Christian Church's child protection policies, forms for the year, and any other pertinent information.

As always, if you have any questions, please contact Rev. Monica Lewis at monical@cccckc.org, Lindsay Howes at lindsayh@cccckc.org, or Allie Cobb at alliec@cccckc.org.

Upcoming Student Events

Sun., Aug. 24 – Sundaes Sunday for incoming 6th graders, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Will you be a 6th grader for the 2014-15 academic year? Then welcome to Student Ministries! We can't wait to get to know you so stop by the Social Hall for an ice cream bar.

Sun., Aug. 24 – Game Night. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Stop by the Social Hall for fun games like Everybody's It, Apples to Apples, and yes, there will be Gotcha.

Sun., Aug. 31 – No Youth Group due to Labor Day weekend.

Sun., Sept. 21 – High School BBQ Tour. Noon-3:00 p.m. High School students get out your bibs and wet wipes! We are going on a Kansas City BBQ tour. Get your taste buds ready. More information soon.

Sun., Sept. 21 – 7th Grade Gathering. 3:45-4:30 p.m. Stay tuned for more details.

Family Night at Micah

Student families are invited to serve together at Independence Boulevard Christian Church's Micah Ministry on Mon., Sept. 8. Meet at Independence Boulevard Christian Church at 5:00 p.m.



Nice to Meet You! 10 Things About Me

by Rev. Dr. Meredith Holladay, Minister of Membership Development



1. I'm a PK. Pastor's Kid. My dad has served three Baptist churches. All three have been in Louisville.
2. I love my hometown. Born and raised in Louisville, given the opportunity I will talk your ear off about my favorite city. I am, however, a lousy Kentuckian. I do not like bourbon, horses or baseball. Well, I'm neutral about baseball.
3. I have lived in seven states and D.C. – if you count summer camps and internships: Kentucky, Florida, New Jersey, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Texas and Kansas. I have a love-hate relationship with Texas – mostly

because I strongly dislike eight-month-long summers, but love Tex-Mex.

4. Texas was home because I earned my Ph.D. at Baylor. My degree is in Religion, Politics, and Society (all the topics not fit for polite conversation), and I wrote my dissertation on theology and popular music.
5. I am (recently) engaged to another minister. Ten days before I started here Zach proposed. He succeeded in surprising me (something I didn't think possible). We met in seminary – 10 years ago! – but were just friends until we reconnected when he moved to the area April 2013 to serve as youth pastor at Village Presbyterian. We're just getting started on planning, but hoping for a March 2015 wedding.
6. My sister is also a pastor. She graduated in 2013 from McAfee School of Theology in Atlanta, where she still lives and works for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship home office in their communications department.
7. My mom is a retired elementary school principal. She has had a career in public education longer than she's had a career as a mother. She will be here for Festival Sunday, Aug. 17. Be sure to introduce yourselves to both of us!
8. I have a problem with volume perception (not decibels). Any time I have the task of putting leftovers away I either pick a container that is way too large or laughably small. Every. Single. Time.
9. For a short time I thought I would be a math teacher. I loved math in high school and was really good at calculus. Then I got to college. I double-majored in English and Religion. Go figure.
10. I love mushrooms and cheese and fresh bread. I strongly dislike olives. I would tell you I hate olives, but my dad always says, "Meredith, *hate* is a very strong word."



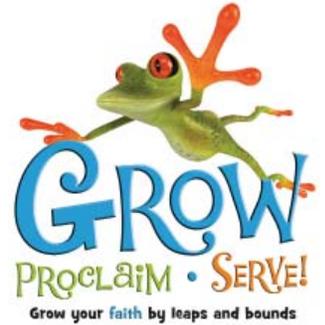
Meredith with her mom Patty, sister Emily and fiance Zach.

Meredith

Children and Families Sunday Morning Format

Grow, Proclaim, Serve

Through *Grow! Proclaim and Serve* your child will hear the Bible story, apply the Bible message, and then live out the message in their lives in concrete and age-appropriate ways. Sunday School starts off in a group worship service and then the children divide into small groups based on grade level to continue



conversation and activities. We are very excited about this format for the 1st-5th graders and the 3 to 6 year olds.

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PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. R. Glen Miles Senior Minister	Ms. Allie Cobb Director of Student Ministries
Rev. Carla Aday Senior Associate Minister	Dr. Meredith Holladay Minister of Membership Development
Rev. David Diebold Minister of Music	Ms. Lindsay Howes Director of Children's Ministries
Rev. Monica Lewis Minister to Children, Students and Families	Ms. Lisa McCleish Director of Early Childhood Programs
Rev. Joe Walker Minister of Congregational Care	Mr. Michael Patch Director of Children's and Youth Choirs
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