



# COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN

Strength for the Journey. Grace for the Soul.

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*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.*

## Hoffman and Willey to Lead Church in 2011-2012

Stuart Hoffman will serve as Chair of the Congregational Board for 2011-2012. Stuart has been a member of Country Club Christian Church for more than 24 years. He became a member 18 years ago, on the same day his oldest son was confirmed.



Stuart Hoffman and Suzanne Willey

Suzanne Willey will chair the Elders in 2011-2012. Suzanne is a Kansas City native and a graduate of the University of Kansas. She spent half of her professional career in advertising and the last several years in the senior industry, working the past four years in marketing at Aberdeen Village.

Stuart grew up in Fairway and graduated from Baker University and Webster University. He has spent the past 20 years in marketing and fundraising. He is married to Anne, whom he has known since he was 9 years old. He says they decided to wait until they finished grade school to get married. They have been married 23 years. They have two sons, Riley and Parker. Riley will be a freshman at Baker University this

*continued on page 2*

Suzanne has been a member of Country Club Christian Church for about 20 years, serving as a Sunday school teacher, Stephens minister, chair of the Congregational Care Council and a member of the Congregational Board. She has chaired a Celebration Dinner and the retirement celebration for Dr. George Gordon.

Her family consists of a couple of beagles she fondly refers to as her kids.

*continued on page 2*

### Vacation Bible School **PandaMania** Is Coming!

**July 25-29, 9:00 a.m.-noon**

Plans are being made for a week of faith-filled fun! The theme of VBS this year is *PandaMania – Where God is Wild about You!* VBS is for children 4 years old through 5th grade. Registration forms, with full details, are on the church website at [www.cccckc.org](http://www.cccckc.org) or in the Children's Wing.



#### Youth Volunteers for VBS

We need youth (who have completed 6th grade and up) to help with Vacation Bible School, July 25-29 from 9:00 a.m.-noon.. Whether you can help for a day or the week, we can use your talents and time. Complete a youth volunteer form and submit it to Catherine Stark-Corn or Karla Herrington.



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## Please Return Your Commitment Card



with you. We are now moving into the follow-up phase of the campaign. A calling team has been organized and will be contacting members whose Commitment Cards we have not yet received. Thank you for your generous support of Country Club Christian Church.

**Capital Campaign Projects Update:** The Congregational Board has entered into a contract with an architect who will begin working toward the restoration of the church's exterior. Stay tuned for additional updates on the capital projects.

## Partnership with Hartman Elementary Is Success

This past school year, More than 100 individuals from Country Club Christian Church made a commitment to volunteer with the Kansas City Missouri School District at Hartman Elementary School.

One group of volunteers participated in the Back Snack program sponsored by Harvesters Community Food Network. Each Friday, a group of children were sent home with a backpack filled with healthy food to last the weekend. Church volunteers were responsible for filling and delivering the backpacks every week.

Other volunteers found fulfillment in tutoring children in the classroom. Some helped first graders with their reading assignments while others assisted teachers in the classroom.

Already, volunteers can be heard chatting about how they intend to be involved in the next school year, and the Hartman community is excited as well. "Thanks to your great work, something wonderful has begun at Hartman," said Sherry Schreiber, Instructional Coach at Hartman. If you would like to be a part of this exciting partnership, you are encour-

If you have not yet turned in your Commitment Card for the Sustain our Legacy; Strengthen our Foundation joint campaign, please take a moment now to visit [www.cccckc.org](http://www.cccckc.org) and either submit your confidential Commitment Card online or print a hard copy to bring to church

aged to be here on Festival Sunday, Aug. 21. The Hartman community will be here to celebrate with us and you will have an opportunity to sign up to volunteer for the 2011-2012 school year. Opportunities range from on-going tutoring positions to more episodic opportunities. Volunteers are required to attend an orientation and undergo a background screening.

For more information on how you can be involved, please contact Lauren Weinhold at [laurenw@cccckc.org](mailto:laurenw@cccckc.org) or Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn at [catherinesc@cccckc.org](mailto:catherinesc@cccckc.org).

## Willey, *continued from page 1*

Suzanne's goal as chair of the elders is to help the church grow, with a special emphasis on individual spiritual growth and revitalization.

"Our church is blessed with so many devout servants. As we move forward, I want to provide resources and opportunities to replenish 'thirsty souls.' As it has been said before, one cannot give what one does not have," she said.

## New Ways to Give

Contributions can now be debited automatically from your checking or savings account. Our new electronic giving program offers convenience for you and much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. And, when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will allow your weekly offerings to continue on an uninterrupted basis. An authorization form and a "Frequently Asked Questions" flyer are available from the church office. Beginning July 11 you will be able to give online at [cccckc.org/give.html](http://cccckc.org/give.html).

## Hoffman, *continued from page 1*

fall and Parker is going to be a freshman at Shawnee Mission East High School.

Stuart's leadership experience at Country Club Christian Church includes serving as chair of the Outreach Council and of the Board of Elders.

Stuart said his primary goal during the upcoming year is to share more information about our church to the congregation.

"Especially in a time when we are in the middle of a capital campaign, it is important that everyone in the church knows what is happening in each of the ministry councils, financial information, worship attendance and membership, stewardship activity as well as activity with the endowment," he said.



## An Inclusive Gospel

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



*While Glen is away this week enjoying a brief vacation before heading to the 2011 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Nashville, we are reprinting his column from Nov. 3, 2008.*

One of the most important aspects of the “emerging church” movement is the idea of inclusiveness. Many research organizations and reports are noting that people no longer search for a church based on “brand” loyalty. Fifty years ago if you were a member of a Christian Church like Country Club and you moved away to another city you would simply find the closest Christian Church and soon thereafter place your membership there. That is no longer the case.

Today people search for churches based on factors like the message proclaimed week in and week out, the ministries offered, and the overall mission of the church. This is why inclusivity is such an important issue. On any given week at Country Club Christian you may find yourself seated between a Presbyterian and Pentecostal or a Baptist and Buddhist even!

Peter Gomes makes the very strong point that this inclusivity is something we can find in Jesus. Gomes writes, *“If the gospel is truly good news, it has to be good news for everyone, for it is either an inclusive gospel or no gospel at all. Prejudice, paranoia, the politics of exclusion—all these little systems have their day, and there are moments when they appear to prevail, but the church, we know from experience, will eventually do the right thing once it has exhausted every other alternative.”*

Jesus was constantly welcoming all kinds of people into his circle of friends and followers whose backgrounds caused the pious and the self-righteous to shudder. A close examination of the disciples themselves reveals an extremely flawed group of persons. I once preached a sermon on the disciples titled “Only the Unqualified Need Apply.”

The flawed disciples help to reveal the beauty of the gospel of Jesus Christ. God is not waiting for us to attain perfection. Instead, God invites us to acknowledge our brokenness as we move our lives into the center of grace itself. When we are able to do that we become, as Hemingway suggested, “strong in the broken places.”

This gift of grace then guides and directs us toward lives lived with love at the center. When that happens in a congregation, the walls of exclusivity evaporate and the pews become sacred places of hope and healing.

Grace and Peace to you,

## Festival Sunday Coming Aug. 21

Save the date for Festival Sunday, the beginning of a new year of spiritual growth opportunities for children, youth and adults. Dr. R. Glen Miles will preach the sermon “Grace Spoken Here,” we will gather for lunch



on the front lawn from 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and children and youth will advance to the next Sunday School grade level. The 5 Star Jazz Band returns to entertain during the picnic. Cost is \$6 per person.

## Worship with us!

**Services at 9:00, 10:00  
and 11:00 a.m.**

**July 10**

Rev. Chuck Murphy preaching  
The Depth Within  
*Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23*

**July 17**

When Waiting is Praying  
*Romans 8: 12-25*

**July 24**

Jesus Loves Me This I Know  
*Romans 8: 31-39*

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# Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

## Soulmates

Soul Mates is a six-week class designed for engaged and newlywed couples. The class focuses on topics and issues related to developing and maintaining a meaningful relationship. Class participants are encouraged to read *It Takes Two: The Joy of Intimate Relationship* by Andrew and Judith Lester. You may purchase the book on amazon.com by visiting the church's website and clicking on the tab for our bookstore, The Well. Class begins July 17 and runs through Aug. 21 and meets during the Sunday School hour in the Bride's Room (Rm. 116). For more information or to sign up, please contact Lauren Weinhold at [laurenw@cccckc.org](mailto:laurenw@cccckc.org).

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## 2011 New Orleans Mission Trip

For the seventh time, Country Club Christian Church will send a mission team to New Orleans to help with the reconstruction following Hurricane Katrina. The trip will be Sun., Oct. 30 through Sat., Nov. 5. We will once again work in partnership with the United Church of Christ to obtain our work projects. Betsy Wilson will be the trip leader. Contact Betsy at [betcwilsonkc@yahoo.com](mailto:betcwilsonkc@yahoo.com) for more information.

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## The Well Book Corner

Do you need books for your children or grandchildren for the summer? Do you need a Bible to use in your Bible study? Would you like to read a book mentioned in a sermon or a minister's column in *The Christian*? Or perhaps you would like to read a book by Miroslav Volf who will speak at Country Club Christian in September? Then you should visit The Well! Many new books—for both children and adults—have been added in recent weeks, and they are waiting for you.



**JULY SPECIAL:** All children's book in stock, including children's Bibles will be 15% off the marked prices.

The Well is on the ground floor of the church and 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.

## Food Drive Needs Your Help on July 17

Did you know that each month our church supports local food pantries which serve the homeless and hungry of our community? Each month, we collect food donations in vans in the church parking lot or in the barrels located at the east and north doors. Food is also purchased in case lots for the pantries so cash donations are welcome. On **July 17**, please bring your non-perishable food items for our collection. Mark your cash donations "food drive" and place in the offering plate.

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## Habitat for Humanity Volunteers Needed

A team is scheduled to work on Habitat for Humanity houses on July 23, July 30 and Sept. 24. If you are able to help in July and would like to be a part of building a better Kansas City, you are encouraged to contact Rod Schlatter at 913-338-0957 or [rschlatter@bartlett-grain.com](mailto:rschlatter@bartlett-grain.com).

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## 2011 Tall Oaks Gala Is October 28

The 2011 Tall Oaks Gala "Celebrating 50 years of Camping" will be held Fri., Oct. 28 at the Intercontinental Hotel on the Plaza. This is the annual benefit dinner for the Tall Oaks Conference Center. Proceeds help benefit camps and conferences in which our congregation participates. Watch for more information.

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## Visitor Information Seminar on July 16

You're invited to the Visitor Information Seminar on Sat., July 16 from 8:45-11:30 a.m. Learn more about our history as a denomination and a church and discover the multitude of ways you can be strengthened on your faith journey. Our ministers will be on hand to talk about the church's ministries and how you can get involved. Ask questions, enjoy breakfast and meet the church's lay leaders. Then, if you're ready to join the church, the next **New Member Sunday is Aug. 14**. For more information or to reserve your spot at the seminar, please contact Lauren Weinhold, Director of Church Growth, at 816-333-4917 or [laurenw@cccckc.org](mailto:laurenw@cccckc.org).



## SchlitterBonding

by Ms. Laine Riley, Associate Organist



I recently had the privilege to tag along with Chi Rho, our middle school youth ministry, for its afternoon at Schlitterbahn Water Park. I was a last minute addition, and thrilled to be going. It was the first time in 13 years that I was going to enjoy the water without being “on watch” with a young swimmer. The upcoming sixth graders were invited to go on this trip as well. As we gathered in the youth center, I was struck by the differences between the incoming sixth graders and the eighth graders in the group. They could have been decades apart.

After arriving in the park, the rules were established. Stay at least in groups of two and make sure to meet at the checkpoint time. I watched as they paired off and scattered: some to the thrill rides, others to more tame waters.

In a couple of hours we all met at the checkpoint. One of the older youth then suggested that we do something all together. Great idea! It was quickly decided that we would go around the Torrent River – a lazy river combined with fun waves. The older youth kind of took charge, making sure that everyone got a tube that wanted one (including a couple of new sponsors and incoming sixth graders), and then insisted that we all stay connected by hands, feet, or tubes just for fun. Not a difficult task, until the waves showed up!

With each wave we would be thrust through the water, often running into other rafts and being stretched beyond our limits. Hands would let go and rafts would quickly scatter. One particular youth, Dylan, made it his mission to keep us all together. Everyone staying connected was the top priority, whether we had to wait a while for a straggler or try to catch up to others. No one was left behind. After one round on this ride, everyone was having so much fun, they opted for a second round. I would guess that if the youth were asked about their favorite parts of the day, this would be among them.

Watching this young group shepherd each other, I was reminded of the Robert Fulghum essay *All I Really Need to Know, I Learned in Kindergarten*: “When you go out into the world, watch out for traffic, hold hands and stick together.” Amen.

*Laine*

## Doctoral Recital by Brian Mathias

**Wednesday, July 13, 7:30 p.m.**

Brian Mathias, Associate Organist at Country Club Christian Church, will present his doctoral recital on Wed., July 13, at 7:30 p.m. at Bales Organ Recital Hall on the University of Kansas campus in Lawrence. Brian will perform the music of Dieterich Buxtehude, Johann Sebastian Bach, and Jehan Alain.

## Grace at Work on September 24

Please join us Sat., Sept. 24 for our fifth Grace at Work event. Many hands will make for light work and a great impact in our community! A few



hours of service can make a difference at a local organization in Kansas City or even complete projects right here at Country Club Christian Church. Grace at Work is a wonderful opportunity to make a short time commitment of service that results in a widespread impact in Kansas City. It offers a unique occasion for rewarding fellowship and service that you will not want to miss. Watch for sign-ups later this summer.

## Grace at Work Agency Representative to Speak

The Grace At Work planning committee has invited Rev. Sharon Garfield from Grace United Community Ministry to speak to the Koinonia Sunday School class on Sun., July 17, from 9:55-10:55 in the Social Hall. Grace United is one of the agencies we support during Grace At Work events. Rev. Garfield will talk about Grace United, and how our volunteers' work there assists them with their ministry. Anyone who is interested is invited to attend this presentation.

## Update on Mission Team to Joplin

The Disciples of Christ Week of Compassion anticipates it will begin scheduling mission teams to help with the long-term recovery in Joplin beginning in late summer. Country Club Christian Church has volunteered to send a mission team to help with the rebuilding efforts after the May 22 tornado and is awaiting assignment.

Josh Baird of Week of Compassion said that the commitment on behalf of Disciples Volunteering is to be present for the long haul. "While Disciples are not among the first to arrive after a disaster, we are among the last to leave. Disciples Volunteering has not issued a call for mission teams yet because we believe that we can offer the most help by being involved in the long-term recovery."

In the meantime, efforts in Joplin are focused on debris removal and sorting

donations in warehouses. Baird said the best way to get connected with these opportunities is through a joint process being coordinated by Americorps. Their volunteer registration hotline is 417-625-3543. Several Disciples churches within about 30 minutes of Joplin are willing to house mission teams in this interim process (Columbus and Pittsburgh, KS and Neosho, MO). You can visit the Ozark Lakes Area website for more information:

(<http://www.olaccma.org/index.php/joplin-tornado-relief-update-10-am/>)

If you are interested in participating on the Country Club Christian Church mission team, please contact Betsy Wilson at [betcwilsonkc@yahoo.com](mailto:betcwilsonkc@yahoo.com) or call the church office. The trip could be weeks from now or even months.

## July Collection Connection

### School Supplies for Don Bosco

According to the National Retail Federation, the average family spends approximately \$98 on school supplies for every school-aged child. For a family already struggling financially, preparing children for the school year can be a large financial burden. This month we are collecting school supplies for the Don Bosco "Project Yes!" program.

While all school supplies are needed, "Project Yes!" typically runs low on the following items:

- kindergarten writing tablets
- beginner pencils
- facial tissue
- index notecards
- highlighters
- protractors
- binders
- loose-leaf paper
- backpacks
- pencil box

Please place your donations in the tubs in the Parlor. With your help, Don Bosco will ensure that the community's youth are prepared for the upcoming school year.

## Petting Zoo at Community Camp Kansas City Wraps Up Summer Series



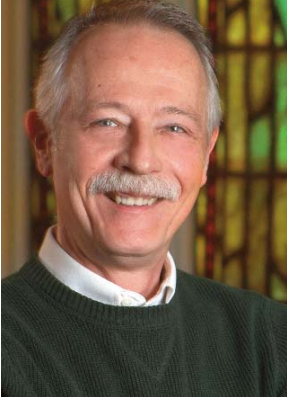
Children enjoyed the animals at the final Community Camp Kansas City this summer. On the left, Noah Howes and below, Rebecca D'Attoma, and Brandy and Evan Kean visited with the animals.





## Simply Be

by Rev. David Diebold, Minister of Music



Summer has now arrived. In fact as you read this the annual festivities on the 4th of July will be memories. We are now in the thick of vacation time.

I have vivid memories of family vacations when I was growing up. Occasionally we took trips to far off places where the days and evenings were full of activities. While those trips were wonderful, the ones I recall most fondly were the summers we went off to simply be family.

Almost every summer my parents rented a cabin on the shore of Lake Erie for two weeks. There we needed only a few things: groceries; our bathing suits, basic clothes; and perhaps a few books. We swam every day, and relaxed the rest of the time. There were no tourist attractions near and we were allowed to simply be family.

It's not that easy today, with destination vacations calling our names. But over the years I've noticed something: we never seem to come back rested. When our daily agendas are packed full of scheduled activities, we really tend to keep going until it is time to return home.

A vacation is like a mini-Sabbath or sabbatical, meant to renew and regenerate our bodies and our souls. I have truly enjoyed the vacations we have taken to various significant destinations. But the ones that are deeply imbedded in my soul are those restful times spent in the circle of those I love.

Life today moves so quickly. It is my sincerest wish for you that, regardless of the destination of your time away, regardless of the content, that you find rest and peace.

There is a song, recorded a number of years back titled "This Day." The text speaks of the importance of each moment. Jesus, himself, said that the realm of God is right here, within each of us. Perhaps this year, as we get away from the crush of our everyday lives, we can savor the moments we spend with those we love.

Happy vacations!

*David*

## Children and Families

### Third Grade Bible Presentation

**Sunday, August 21**

Children entering third grade will be presented with the Bible of their choice on Festival Sunday at the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Letters with full details and a post-card to indicate choice of Bible have been mailed. If you have a son or daughter entering third grade and did not receive information about the Bible presentation, please contact Heather at [heatherr@cccckc.org](mailto:heatherr@cccckc.org) or 816-333-4917.

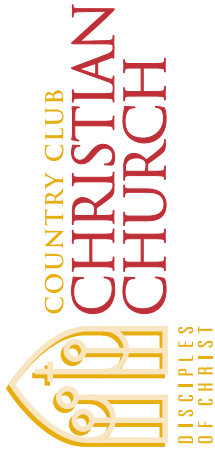
### Fountains of Faith

Join us for Sunday School in July as we explore picture books by master storyteller, Max Lucado. Lucado's stories help children understand how very special they are and how much God loves them.

### Donations/Ongoing Collection Effort

This summer our children will be volunteering at the KC Hospice House. This is an exciting new opportunity, as we are helping start something new at the Hospice House. We will be creating and assembling activity bags for children. Please bring in anything you think would be fun that will fit in a lunch size paper bag. We will create two different age appropriate types of bags and will need items for ages 2-5 and ages 6-10. Some ideas include play dough, bubbles, puzzles, markers, activity books, small toys, chalk, pens, notepads, stickers, balls, and anything else that can supplement an activity bag! Please contact Karla Herrington if you have questions. Leave your donations in Karla's office (Rm. 101) or look for the donation basket during Sunday school.

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## PROGRAM STAFF

**Dr. R. Glen Miles**  
Senior Minister

**Rev. Carla Aday**  
Senior Associate Minister

**Rev. David Diebold**  
Minister of Music

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

**Rev. Chuck Murphy**  
Minister of Congregational  
Care

**Mr. Justin Zeigler**  
Minister to Youth

**Mr. Rob Gilkerson**  
Business Administrator

**Ms. Karla Herrington**  
Director of Children's  
Ministries

**Rev. Steve Mason**  
Pastoral Resident

**Mr. Brian Mathias**  
Associate Organist

**Ms. Lisa McCleish**  
Director of Early  
Childhood Programs

**Ms. Laine Riley**  
Associate Director of Music

**Ms. Lara Schopp**  
Director of Communications

**Ms. Lauren Weinhold**  
Director of Church Growth

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816-333-4917 fax: 816-333-7538  
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## Our Church Family Sympathy

PRISCILLA MCGILL passed away June 27. Survivors include a daughter, Madeline, and a sister, Paula Rinehart. The memorial service was July 1 in the Sanctuary, Rev. Chuck Murphy officiating.

PRESTON MILBURN RUSSELL passed away June 29. Survivors include his wife, Lois Russell. Services were private.

## Memorials

### Elizabeth Lehoczky

Pat Martin  
Steve & Andrea Bough

### Kay Prather-Rodriguez

Bill & Sharon Schalekamp

### Roy Garrison

Pat Martin  
Mrs. Tomi Seo  
John & Erma Hess  
Mike & Susie Ward

### Millie Crawford

Nancy & Jim Carnes  
Beth Ingram  
Lucille Gille  
Robert Smith  
Dr. & Mrs. William Leedy

### Congregational Care

#### Roy Garrison

Jeanne & Perry Cockayne

#### Millie Crawford

Jeanne & Perry Cockayne

#### Music Fund

#### Ada Lois Hodkins

John & Norma Tilton