



# 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.*

## New Sermon Series Begins Feb. 16 The Gospel in Seven Words

In this sermon series we will look at three scriptures – one from the Old Testament, one from Paul’s letters and one from the Gospels that tell the gospel story. The word gospel means good news, but can you describe the biblical Gospel in only seven



words? By the end of this series you’ll be able to. Join us for the sermon series, and begin thinking about your seven words. We’ll be collecting words from all who want to participate and creating a church-wide word cloud graphic to tell us which words are used most.

### What is a Word Cloud?

A word cloud is a visual depiction of a set of words which have been grouped together because of their frequency. By compiling all the words from of our Gospel in Seven Words exercise, we’ll have a visual representation of what words are highlighted most by our congregation.

**Feb. 16**  
Part 1: Jeremiah 31:31-34

**Feb. 23**  
Part 2: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

**Mar. 2**  
Part 3: Mark 12: 28-34

## Marriage Enrichment Sunday on Feb. 16

### Celebrating Marriages and the Community that Enriches Them

We invite all couples who have been married at the church to attend the 11:00 a.m. worship service on Sun., Feb. 16. Enjoy some wedding cake at a reception in your honor in the parlor immediately following the 11:00 service. If you were married at Country Club Christian Church, please bring your wedding photo for the display in the parlor and stay after the service to have your photo taken in the sanctuary.

## Nicaragua Mission Team Prepares for Departure

The Country Club Christian Church mission team departs for Nicaragua on Feb. 22 and returns Mar. 2. This is the 10th year our church has sent a team to Nicaragua and the 13th team to go.



2013 team

Led by Rev. Carla Aday, the team will provide medical care and undertake construction work among the poorest of the poor. The team is no longer collecting supplies to take on the trip, but if you would like to make a cash donation, there is still time to do so.

You can keep up with each team’s journey by checking out the mission trip blog at [www.cccckc.org/stay-informed](http://www.cccckc.org/stay-informed) while they are gone.



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# Faith Formation Groups

## Couple Communication

Couple Communication is an award-winning educational program that teaches you and your partner practical communications 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; for those not married at the church, the fee is \$35. Mondays, Feb. 17 -Mar. 10, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Contact Lauren Weinhold at [laurenw@cccckc.org](mailto:laurenw@cccckc.org).

## Embracing an Adult Faith

Who was Jesus? Who is God? What is salvation? How do we practice our faith? If you've pondered these questions, then you are encouraged to participate in Embracing an Adult Faith. This five-session class is for those seeking a richer understanding of issues in contemporary Christian practice and theology. Led by Lauren Weinhold. Cost is \$13 including book. The class will meet Mondays, Mar. 31 through Apr. 28, 6:30-8:00 p.m., Solarium (Rm. 309). For more information or to RSVP, contact Lauren at [laurenw@cccckc.org](mailto:laurenw@cccckc.org).

## Faith Academy

Designed for those who seek to stretch the mind and expand the heart to explore new paths of faithful living, Faith Academy involves reading an academic text and discussing it in class with a clergy person or professor as mentor and guide. To prepare for this seminar-type experience, pick up the text and begin reading now. Spring session will be led by Mike Graves, Professor of Preaching at St. Paul School of Theology. The book is *The Misunderstood Jew* by A.J. Levine. Mon., Apr. 7, 14, 21, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

## 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. Led by Phil and Patty Love. Limit: 14 people. Sun., May 4, 6:00 p.m. Call Mary Margaret House at 816-333-4917 for movie title or to sign up.

## Pathways to Learning: The Changing Face of Christianity



**Feb. 16** – “Pope Francis,” Caitlin Hendel, CEO and President of *National Catholic Reporter*, and Dennis Coday, Editor of *National Catholic Reporter*.

**Feb. 23** – “Leadership in the Workplace: How to Respond to Those Who Let You Down?” Dr. Mack Harnden.

**9:55-10:55 a.m., Social Hall**

Coming later this spring:

**Do you know your Urban IQ?** Speakers to be announced.

Sundays, June 1 and 8, 9:55-10:55 a.m.

## Save the Date!

### 5th Annual Celebration Dinner

In continued recognition of our past and as we move forward with a greater vision of who we are as a church, we are proud to announce that the 2014 Annual Dinner and Auction will be held on Sat., Mar. 29, at Studio 2131. Studio 2131 is located at 2131 Washington Street in the Crossroads Arts District.

Mark your calendar now and plan to attend the dinner and auction, which not only has become an important source of funds for the church's operating budget, it has more importantly cultivated friendships that extend across generational lines and nurtured a sense of stewardship within our community.

You can help ensure this year's event is a success by becoming a benefactor at one of six levels starting at \$250 or purchasing tickets to the event. Do you have auction items you'd like to donate? Contact Amy Holmes at [adolmes75@yahoo.com](mailto:adolmes75@yahoo.com) or 816-868-3417.

## New Staff Member



Mr. Paul Cutelli has joined the staff as the administrative assistant assigned to the senior minister and senior associate minister. He was born and raised in Kansas City. Paul is a graduate of UMKC with a major in Philosophy. He previously worked for Community Christian Church in a similar capacity.



# Goliath Never Had a Chance

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



Poor Goliath. When he challenged the Israelite army to send a warrior to do battle with him the great giant never had a chance. As soon as they saw the young shepherd boy armed with his sling and five smooth stones they should have fled immediately into the hills to regroup. David held all of the power and was in total control of the situation. Goliath was the underdog.

Are you surprised by this view of the story? I was too when I read Malcolm Gladwell's latest book, *David and Goliath*. Gladwell argues that Goliath never had a chance because David took

advantage of the situation and turned everything into his favor. Goliath was heavily armored. He was tall and strong. His weapons were humongous. He looked fearsome. David, the young shepherd boy, volunteered to take on the mighty warrior. When Saul looked at the situation he could only see it through the eyes of the traditional style of one-on-one combat and he tried to arm David in the same way. David, combining quickness and speed with a powerful and accurate weapon, took down the mighty Philistine and turned the tables of war.

Gladwell writes, "What the Israelites saw, from high on the ridge, was an intimidating giant. In reality the very thing that gave the giant his size was also the source of his greatest weakness. There is an important lesson in that for battles with all kinds of giants. The powerful and the strong are not always what they seem."

Are there any gigantic battles in your life that are bringing you down, leaving you cowering in the corner with nothing but fear on your side? Are there issues in your life that seem huge and insurmountable? Are you discouraged by the way things have gone for you lately? Perhaps what you need is a new way of seeing the battle.

David took on Goliath with courage and faith but he had more than those two things on his side. He found a way to take on this challenge that no one else had envisioned. By learning to see through the problem to a new and never thought of solution he was able to leave behind the fear that others were surely feeling and defeat Goliath.

Paul, writing to a young pastor named Timothy, declares, "For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self discipline." That's not a promise for easy victories but it is a blueprint for taking on any and every challenge we face.

Grace and peace to you,

## Save the Date for Grace at Work

Do you have the passion to volunteer, but don't know where to start? Do we have an opportunity for you! Join us at the annual Grace at Work event on Sat., Apr. 5, a fun-filled half-day volunteer event open to all ages and abilities. Grace at Work supports our church and area organizations through our participation in various hands-on projects. Many different volunteer opportunities are available. Through your participation you will have the opportunity to experience fellowship, while assisting others in need and creating visible change in our community.

## Worship with us!

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

**The Gospel in 7 Words  
Feb. 16**

Part 1: God Will Forget  
We Ever Sinned  
Jeremiah 31:31-34

**Feb. 23**

Part 2: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

**Mar. 2**

Part 3: Mark 12: 28-34

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# Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

## Some Rooms Closed for Construction

For the next two to three weeks, the Parlor and Rooms 201 and 301 will be closed from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. due to construction. Please check with the receptionist for information about alternative locations for classes and meetings.


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## The Well Book Corner

Do you need books for your children or grandchildren? 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*? Then visit The Well, our book and gift store on the ground floor of the church.



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](http://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.

## Leadership Nominations Underway

The nominating process to fill elected positions for the 2014-2015 church year is underway. your participation is invaluable in identifying a diverse representation of leaders from our congregation. We need members who are energetic, dedicated and motivated to serve. The nominating Committee is soliciting names for the following positions: Congregational Board: Chairperson-Elect, treasurer, secretary, and Board members; Personnel Committee; Endowment trustees; Elders; Deacons; youth Elders; youth Deacons. nomination forms are available in the Parlor or at [www.cccckc.org/stay-informed](http://www.cccckc.org/stay-informed). Please turn them into the church office. Deadline for nominations is Sun., Mar. 21.

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## 2014 Mission Trip to Joplin

Country Club Christian Church will be sending a mission team to Joplin, MO, again this year. Mark your calendars for May 18-23, 2014. The team will continue to help with the recovery following the 2011 tornado. To sign up or for more information, contact Betsy Wilson at [betcwilsonkc@yahoo.com](mailto:betcwilsonkc@yahoo.com).



2013 Mission Team

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## Visitor Information Luncheon on March 30

You're invited to an informational gathering to learn more about the church, meet the ministers and ask questions about the denomination and church at a luncheon on Sun., Mar. 30, from 12:15-1:45 p.m. For more information or to reserve your spot at the luncheon, please contact Lauren Weinhold, Director of Church Growth, at 816-333-4917 or [laurenw@cccckc.org](mailto:laurenw@cccckc.org).



# Happily Forever After

by Michael Patch, Director of Children's and Youth Choirs



Have you spotted a tiara or two? The musical is well on its way. Suddenly, we have over 30 Medieval characters singing through the halls.

“Kings and Queens, fairytale dreams; come with me where the livin’ is grand. Damsels in distress, legendary quests; follow me to a far away land...”

Our children and youth have been working very hard to make this a great show. And, they are learning about the differences of living in a kingdom built on sand versus a kingdom built on a firm foundation.

The big show is on Sun., Mar. 9, and we still have a lot to do. We will be putting together a set. The performers will be decorating their own costumes. We will be adding drums, guitar, bass guitar, and a clavinova. We will have volunteers making food, stage managing, working the sound board, and may other tasks. This is truly a church-wide event.

We hope that you will be able to join us on Mar. 9. The performance will begin at 12:15 p.m. in the Social Hall. These Medieval characters will take you to a land far, far away, to a land that is “Happily Forever After.”

*Michael*

## President Truman to Speak at Lunch Bunch



The Lunch Bunch welcomes Harry S. Truman, as portrayed by Ray Starzmann, on Tues., Feb. 18, 11:30 a.m. Revisit Truman's humble be-

ginnings and his ascent to historic leadership through the interpretation of veteran Chautauqua performer Ray Starzmann. Designed for senior adults but everyone is welcome. Cost is \$9.50 for lunch and program. RSVP to Mary Margaret 816-333-4917 or marymargareth@cccckc.org.

## March Program

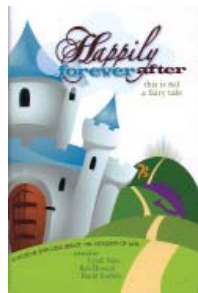
Yael T. Abouhalkah, editorial writer and columns for The Kansas City Star since 1984, most often on issues affecting Kansas City and its suburbs, will discuss the “Future of Kansas City” on Tues., Mar. 18. Save the date!

## Book Drive for Library Prison Ministry

The 24th trip to Lansing Correctional Center to catalog and process library books will take place in March. Many inmates enjoy reading and are very appreciative of this program that our church initiated several years ago. We need books, but only fiction such as mysteries, suspense, westerns, science fiction, and other fictional best sellers. No romance novels, manuals, cookbooks, gardening (you get the idea). Paperbacks are preferred. Please put books under the table at the east entrance no later than Sun., Mar. 2.

### 6th Annual Children's Musical

Join us after the 11:00 a.m. worship service Sun., Mar. 9 as the Children's and Youth Choirs present the musical, “Happily Forever After (A Musical for Kids about the Kingdom of God).” The performance will be in the Social Hall.



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# Upcoming Youth Events

## High School Lock-In

**7:30 p.m. Fri., Feb. 21-9:00 a.m. Sat., Feb. 22**

All 9th-12th graders are invited for a night of fun, fellowship and food. The night will include an hour and a half at PowerPlay, a supermarket sweep, online worship planning, movies and more. Meet at the church at 7:30 p.m. We will head out early Saturday morning to Sosa's Diner for breakfast. We will return to the church for pickup at 9:00 a.m. Everyone must return a permission slip with payment by Feb. 16 to participate. Cost is \$18 per person but you may bring a friend for free. Questions, contact Hayley Holt at hayleyh@cccckc.org.

## Youth Group

**Feb. 23 – Share Your Story.** Trials and Tribulations through Music. Chris Howard will be here to share his love of music in an engaging and thought provoking discussion. Get to know another member of our church family and listen to some tunes! Dinner 5:30-6:00 p.m. and Youth Group 6:00-7:30 p.m.

## Family Night at Micah

Youth families are invited every second Monday of the month to serve together at Independence Boulevard Christian Church's Micah Ministry. The next opportunity will be Mar. 10. Meet at Independence Boulevard Christian Church at 5:00 p.m. to serve families in need.

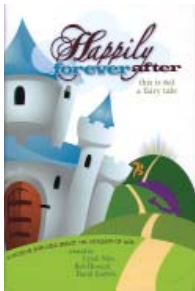
## Fireside Chat

**Sun., Mar. 2**

As we reIMAGINE our Youth Ministry, we want to hear from you. Join us to talk with other youth and children's families and staff about what we are doing well and what we can improve. We will meet from 12:15-1:00 p.m. in the Youth Center.

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# 6th Annual Children's Musical



Join us after the 11:00 a.m. worship service Sun., Mar. 9 as the Children's and Youth Choirs present the musical, "Happily Forever After (A Musical for Kids about the Kingdom of God)." The performance will be in the Social Hall. This story has knights, castles, princesses and dragons. This story is not just an excuse to brandish swords and wear tiaras. It's a captivating and gospel-rich musical that tells the story of Princess Pride, Sir Brags-a-lot, and their curious band on an amazing trek in a very faraway land. When the Carpenter from another

kingdom brings the troubling news that their castle is actually built on sand and will not withstand the coming storm, they hesitantly choose to follow him as he has promised to show them a better kingdom. Assuring them that he'll take them all the way and will never leave them, they encounter troubles, temptations, and some very funny characters.

## Planning for our Youth and Children

**Report Presentation Tues., Feb. 18, 4:00 p.m.**

Ministry Architects, consultants for children and youth ministries, will be on our campus Feb. 15-18 leading us in a thorough assessment of our Ministry to Children, Youth, and Families. If you are a parent, grandparent, family, friend, volunteer, teacher, elder, board member, or just plain care about the future of your church, we want to hear from you. During these groups you will be asked to share input about the way things are now as well as your hopes and dreams for our future. Sign up sheets are located in the parlor, on the bulletin board across from Rev. Monica Lewis' office, and on the second floor in the children's wing. Groups will gather on Sat., Feb. 15 and Sun. Feb. 16. The final report will be presented at 4:00 p.m. on Tues., Feb. 18 in the Youth Center.

## Set Making Workshop for the Musical

**Sat., Feb. 22 9:30-12:30 Social Hall**

All children, youth and families are invited to help us create the set for this year's children's and youth musical. Come when you can and stay as long as you like. We will be working with local artist Paige Ahlenius to create the set for "Happily Forever After." Please wear paint clothes from head to toe, including socks you don't mind getting paint on. Even if you are not involved in the musical, all help is welcome at this fun Saturday painting event! See you there!



## Making a Plan

by Rev. Monica Lewis, Minister to Children, Youth and Families



I began serving with you Oct. 1, 2013. During my interviews I asked the question, “What does success for your children and youth ministries look like to you?” I asked each person—the search team, the personnel chair, the Interim Youth Director, the Senior Associate Minister, the Senior Minister... you get the idea. I got answers but what I had not learned yet was “Why?”

I knew they cared but I didn’t know why they cared. I didn’t know their stories yet. Now I do. Now I know a little bit more of each person’s story. Now I know a little bit about your story. Now I know your children and your grandchildren. Now I know why you care. I know how passionate you are about creating space for them to develop and deepen a faith that will sustain them through the hardest moments of their lives.

Our children live lives more exposed than any of us have lived. Every day, they deal with bullies, eating disorders, depression, anxiety, serious health concerns, and tumultuous home environments. You know your children’s stories—and that’s why you care.

You and I know there’s hope—there’s light. And I believe that we are called to be that light for them.

We are doing that this weekend. We are bringing light into their lives. We are beginning to talk. We are beginning to dream. We are making a plan.

This is a big moment in the life of Country Club Christian Church. More than 100 of you have signed up to be part of the assessment of our Ministry to Children, Youth, and Families! That’s incredible!

I am more excited than ever to hear what YOU have to say. I have been waiting for this weekend since before you hired me! Please pray for this process, for our children and youth, and for me as I do my best to lead us into our future.

Tues., Feb. 18, at 4:00 p.m. do your best to join us as the consultants from Ministry Architects present the report to us that outlines where we go from here. This is your chance to ask questions and hear the exciting plan that will help shape the faith of YOUR children!

*Monica*

## Children and Families

### Children’s Registration Table

Our first weeks of Children’s Check-In are going well. Thank you to our wonderful volunteers and families. From now on, children participating in Sunday School (this is anyone in a 2nd floor classroom) will be checked in by the adult who brought them to church at a registration table on the 2nd floor. At this table, you will receive a security tag that matches the number on your child. You MUST have this number when you pick up your child(ren). If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Monica Lewis.

### Club Kids

**Feb. 23**

Club Kid parent, Craig Doty, will join us to talk about his book, *All Dogs Dog Park*. This will also be a service opportunity making toys to benefit Wayside Waifs. 5:30-7:30 p.m., Social Hall.

### First Steps of Faithfulness

**Sun., Mar. 2, 9:55-10:55 a.m., Rm. 215**

Parents with children under 3 are invited to join other families as we explore how your infant or toddler comes to know God and what our role as parents can be in fostering faithfulness.

### Preschool and Parents’ Day Out Summer Enrollment

**Mar. 3** – Summer Enrollment for currently enrolled Preschool and Parents’ Day Out families. 9:00 a.m., Social Hall.

**Mar. 4** – Summer Enrollment for Preschool and Parents’ Day Out open to the public. 9:00 a.m., Social Hall.

### Save the Dates:

**Apr. 6 – Easter Egg Hunt.** 12:15 p.m., Chapel Lawn.

**May 3-4 – Omaha Zoo Overnight** for 3rd-5th graders.

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Return Service Requested

## Virginia Reed Food Drive on February 16

On Sun., Feb. 16, please bring your nonperishable food items for our collection for local food pantries that serve the homeless and hungry. Vans will be in the parking lot to receive your food or it can be placed in the baskets located at the east and north doors. We also purchase food in case lots for the pantries, so cash donations are welcome. Please mark your donation "Food Drive."

### PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. R. Glen Miles Senior Minister	Ms. Hayley Holt Interim Youth Director
Rev. Carla Aday Senior Associate Minister	Dr. Brian Mathias Associate Organist
Rev. David Diebold Minister of Music	Ms. Lisa McCleish Director of Early Childhood Programs
Rev. Monica Lewis Minister to Children, Youth and Families	Mr. Michael Patch Director of Children's and Youth Choirs
Rev. Joe Walker Interim Minister of Congregational Care	Ms. Lara Schopp Director of Communications
Mr. John D. Clemmer Business Administrator	Ms. Lauren Weinhold Director of Church Growth

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