



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.

Children’s and Student Ministry Renovation Team Celebrates Halfway Mark!

Since March of last year, the Children’s and Student Ministries Renovation Team, team led by Lesley Holt and consisting of John Bartlett, Lori Bennett, Tepring Crocker, Craig Doty and Dana Flora, have quietly been dreaming, researching, and organizing the structures and systems that will be the foundation for vital children and student ministries.

Some of the many accomplishments are exciting and visible, a lot of them are much less exciting and even tedious! All lay the groundwork for a strong, sustainable ministry. Founding a sustainable ministry requires the efforts of a whole community. It can not be done by a valiant few or a brilliant leader (and

believe me we have those in Lesley Holt and Monica Lewis and the ministry teams). If you would like to join the Children’s and Student Ministry as a volunteer or a leader, speak



High School Music Night on Jan. 18

to any member of the Renovation Team or Monica Lewis. We invite you to be present to our children so they will continue to grow in the knowledge and love of God. If you cannot volunteer at this time, please lift your heart in prayer every now and then.

To read about the Renovation Team’s work and progress, download the full Renovation Team report at <http://tinyurl.com/renovationteam>.



Pathways to Learning in March



Resurrection Themes in Art, Literature and Music

Mar. 8 – Aram Demirjian, Associate Conductor of the Kansas City Symphony.

Mar. 15 – Dr. Madeline Rislow, Lecturer in Medieval and Renaissance at The Kansas City Art Institute.

Mar. 22 – Dr. Bill Stancil, Professor of Theology and Religious Studies at Rockhurst University.

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



New Members Joined February 15



Jason Grammer

New Member Host: Stacey Lukas



Sam & Katie Kribbs

New Member Hosts: Jeff & Jan Zimmerman



Tammy & Joe Meinhardt

New Member Hosts: Nancy & Greg Lear



Nikki & Tom Meier and daughter, Kathryn

New Member Host: Rachel & Travis Wymore

Upcoming Faith Formation Groups

Church Words

This class will help you unpack some of the daunting “churchy” words and understand and deepen your faith along the way. Taught by Dr. Meredith Holladay. Sundays, Apr. 19-May 17, 9:55-10:55 a.m.

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. Dr. Mike Graves, Professor of Preaching at St. Paul School of Theology, will lead a class on Biblical interpretation and sermon writing. If you have a scripture and you need a sermon, what are the next steps? The class will meet two evenings to begin the process. Then Mike will preach the sermon on Sunday morning. The class will then meet for a third session to debrief. Apr. 20, 27 and May 4.

You're Invited

You're invited to the wedding of Meredith Holladay, Minister of Spiritual Formation, and Zach Walker at 3:30 p.m. Friday, March 6, 2015, at Village Presbyterian

Church (6641 Mission Road, Prairie Village, KS 66208). A short reception will follow in the Friendship Hall.



Sign Up for Your Church Directory Photo

Don't miss your chance to be included in the next church directory! You may sign up on Sunday morning in the Parlor or beginning Mar. 2, online by visiting www.cccck.org. LifeTouch photographers will be here Mar. 24-28 and Apr. 28-May 2 to take photographs in the Social Hall.



If You Had Faith

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



If you had faith (and you do), you would be able to take on the world in all its beauty and ugliness. Even if you are awash in doubt, even if you are barely hanging on to a thread of faith and it feels like you are about to fall into a pit of despair and darkness, you have enough, more than enough to get through.

I know, I know, you may wonder if that isn't just sanctified self-help language. You may think that is what the preacher is supposed to say, sort of a holy pat on the back, a sacred "attaboy, don't worry." Well, I don't blame you really.

Maybe you are like the character in John Updike's novel, *A Month of Sundays*, who reports, "I have no faith. Or, rather, I have faith, but it doesn't seem to apply." Jesus would say, even a tiny kernel of faith is more than enough.

"If you had faith," Jesus says, "You could make this tree be uprooted and planted in the sea." Don't get too caught up in what that means. It is not about doing magic tricks. It is not about performing miracles. It is hyperbole, exaggerated speech.

Jesus is making the point that if we look around, if we look inside, we'll see that we do indeed have enough faith or endurance or courage or honesty or justice or trust or belief to get through whatever this life tosses at us. Jesus wants us to see that the strength for following God, for being a disciple of Christ, comes from God's very spirit.

Thomas Graham, the dean of a theological school, says that "Faith is reason gone courageous – not the opposite of reason to be sure, but something more than reason and never satisfied by reason alone. A step always remains beyond the edge of light." Faith, in order for it to grow, needs something more than comfort. It needs the challenge of a life lived in love. It's not always easy but if you have faith (and you do) you will be able to follow in the path of Jesus named love and mercy.

Grace and peace to you,

The Financial Life of the Church Sunday, March 15, Noon, Social Hall

At this forum a panel of four lay leaders involved in the financial leadership of the congregation will make brief presentations on the current financial results, the endowment, the rationale and background of the integrated budget, and the long-range financial plan. Following these presentations, there will be ample time allowed for questions and comments. Phil Love, Board Chair elect, will moderate the panel.

Worship with us!

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

**Lenten Sermon Series: Making
Room for God**

Mar. 1

Part 2: Long for The Pure
1 Peter 1:22-2:3

Mar. 8

Part 3: When Love Isn't Enough,
Psalm 88

Mar. 15

Part 4: Be Still and Know
Psalm 46

Mar. 22

Part 5: Let It Be
John 14:25-31

Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

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 2015 Annual Dinner and Auction will be held on Sat., Apr. 25, at The Roasterie Bean Hangar, 1204 W. 27th Street, Kansas City, MO 64108.

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.

Auction Items Sought

Participate by donating an item for either the silent or live auction. The auction committee is seeking items such as jewelry, trips, event/sporting tickets, personal service and more for both the silent and live auctions. If you have an item you'd like to donate, contact Lisa Schmidt at 816-210-6335 or lisachmidtcc@gmail.com.

Donations for Easter Egg Hunt

Our second annual Easter Egg Hunt is coming up Mar. 22. Last year was a huge success and we hope that 2015 will be even better! We need 2,000 filled plastic Easter eggs to make sure that every child has a great time hunting for eggs. Please bring your filled eggs to the Collection Connection through Mar. 15. You're invited to stay after worship on Mar. 22 to see the joy on the faces of lots of children as they gather the eggs you will provide!



Memorial Easter Lilies

Honor the memory of a loved one by purchasing a memorial Easter lily. The lilies will be displayed in the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, Apr. 5 and may be taken home after the 11:00 a.m. service or donated for our homebound members. Prices are \$16 for single stem plants and \$21 for double stems. Pick up an order form in the main office. Please return the completed form, with payment, to Mary Margaret House by Sun., Mar. 8. Your payment is the confirmation of your order. If you have questions, contact Mary Margaret House, marymargareth@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917.

2015 General Assembly Is Coming!

The 2015 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is set for July 18-22 in Columbus, OH and planning is well underway. If you've been before, you'll find a bounty of new worship experiences and learning tracks. If you've never been, there is a website with a wealth of information, including a page just for you. Go to ga.disciples.org to see the schedule, workshop offerings and register online. See you in Columbus!



UMKC Partnership Concert

As part of the 2014-15 program year, the Music Ministry Team scheduled four concerts with the UMKC Conservatory of Music. The third concert will be held on Thurs., Mar. 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. This performance will feature top instrumentalists from the UMKC Conservatory chamber music program. The performance is free and open to all. A free-will offering will be taken with donations benefiting the UMKC Alumni Scholarship Fund. The final program in our partnership will feature choral music with the Conservatory Singers. That event will be held on Fri., Apr. 17 at 7:30 p.m.

Leadership Nominations Due March 1

The deadline for nominations to fill elected positions for the 2015-2016 church year is Sun., Mar. 1. Your participation is invaluable in identifying a diverse representation of leaders from our congregation. Nomination forms are available in the church office or at <http://tinyurl.com/2015nominations>.



It Takes a Village

By Allie Cobb, Director of Student Ministries



The saying goes, “It takes a village to raise a child.” I happen to think it takes a congregation. Since our newly formed Student Ministry Team began its work in December 2014 we have already begun to do great things together to help the students of our congregation continue to grow in their faith and relationships with one another.

A few weeks ago with the help of caring members of our congregation we were able to raise over \$950 for Harvesters Community Food Network. On “Souper Bowl Sunday” we had a dozen middle and high school students standing outside the sanctuary in aprons and holding stock pots to collect donations. Their goal was to raise \$500 and they almost doubled that goal! How amazing is that?!?!

In mid-January we hosted our first-ever High School Music Night. We had 23 high school students come and share their love of music, and pizza. It was such an amazing sight to see. A room full of students from different schools coming together over a love of music.

The reason I am mentioning these events is because without the help of dedicated church volunteers they would not have been as successful. I know in everyone’s busy schedules it might seem impossible to find an hour or two to volunteer. I am fortunate enough to see the incredible ways that people here at Country Club Christian Church step up every day to help support Student Ministry and for that I am eternally grateful. I know that you might be already feeling low on spare time, but trust me when I tell you that any extra time you can give our students is time VERY well spent. I promise your life will be changed by your service!

ALLIE

Thank You from Week of Compassion

Dear Country Club Christian Church,

Greetings of peace and grace to you all from the office of Week of Compassion. We would like to say thank you for your gift of \$31,880.20 designated for Ebola Relief. We are very grateful for your partnership and support in providing hope and healing to the many people affected by this outbreak. Lives are changed and empowered because of these gifts. Thanks be to God!

We appreciate all of your support to Week of Compassion and look forward to partnering together in 2015. Please let us know how we can support your congregation. The Week of Compassion offering is just around the corner and all of our resources are on the website, but feel free to contact us if you have any questions or need anything further.

On behalf of Vy Nguyen, our Executive Director, and Mary Jacobs, our Interim Resource Development Director, we all say thank you!

Peace,
Rev. Dawn Barnes
Transitional Program Associate

Nicaragua Mission Trip Blog

A mission team left Feb. 21 to conduct medical clinics and work on construction projects among the poorest of the poor in rural Nicaragua. They will return Mar. 1. You can read about the team’s journey by checking out the mission trip blog at Follow the team’s work at cccckc.org/stay-informed.

Upcoming Student Events

Hope House Service Project – Sun., Mar. 1, 5:00-7:30 p.m. Middle and high school students will be going to Hope House to volunteer for the evening. We will be playing games and making crafts with the children that reside there. We will also provide a “sack” dinner. If interested in volunteering, please contact Allie Cobb at alliec@cccckc.org so we can arrange transportation.

High School Late Night – Mar. 6 and 7, 7:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m. The cost is \$10 per person. More details on this exciting event are to come soon. Please contact Allie Cobb at alliec@cccckc.org to RSVP.

Green Team Volunteering – Sun., Apr. 12, 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the church and chapel. Middle and high school students do you have a green thumb? Even if you don't, you are invited to help the Green Team get ready for spring! The more hands the better. Snacks will be provided. Contact Allie for questions and sign-up.

Sunday Evenings

Middle School and High School students are encouraged to participate in Youth Group, a monthly fellowship opportunity.

High School Youth Group: Third Sunday of the month.

Middle School Youth Group: First Sunday of the month.

Spring Musical

Mark your calendars for the spring musical, *iAm, An App for All That*, on Apr. 26 at noon in the Social Hall. *iAM: The Real Life App for All That* is a children's musical designed to teach kids that even with all of our distractions and entertainment, the most exciting thing in life is getting to know the God who made us. Join super app-designer Solomon and the amazing creative team at the App Factory, where you not only play the games, but you get into the game, and discover the real life app for all that.



Important Information

Rehearsals – Every Sunday, 11:00-11:30 a.m.

Set Building Workshops – Sat., Mar. 28 and Apr. 11, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Final Rehearsal Schedule:

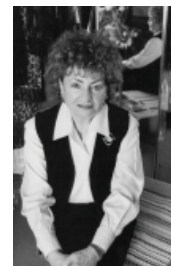
Tech Rehearsal – Fri., Apr. 24, 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Dress Rehearsal – Sat., Apr. 25, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

For more information, contact Michael Patch, Director of Children and Student Music, at michaelp@cccckc.org.

March Lunch and Learn: Sonia, Shoah Survivor

Sonia Warshawski, 86 years young, will be our featured speaker for Lunch and Learn on Tues., Mar. 10, at 11:30 a.m. Sonia, one of Kansas City's most popular Jewish personalities, is known both for her stories of surviving the Shoah (Holocaust) when she was imprisoned in Auschwitz-Birkenau and her tailoring shop at Metcalf South Shopping Center. Sonia and her daughter, Regina Kort, will be with us to share stories and wisdom from the width and breadth of a life that has survived the worst sins of humankind and then triumphed in love and laughter right here in our community.



Sonia's story is the subject of a documentary being produced and co-directed by her granddaughter, Leah Warshawski. A trailer for the film is available at www.bigsonia.com. Sonia and Regina's speaking engagements are made possible through the cooperation of the Midwest Center for Holocaust Education.

Everyone is welcome. \$10 includes lunch. RSVP to 816-333-4917 or marymargaretH@cccckc.org. Please indicate if you are ordering a Kosher meal. Hearing assistance devices are available.



A Full Year

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



It's been a full year since our church began renovating our Ministries to Children and Students. A full year! When we began this process, we talked about how we were going to "renovate" by building on our solid foundation and creating systems and structures that would create sustainability in our ministries...about how we want to foster lifelong connections among children, students and adults.

I wish you could see the folder on my Google Drive labeled "CCCC Ministry Architects." It is packed with hours of work and documents. But when I look at it, I don't just see documents. I see the people behind them.

I see **Tepring Crocker** at her computer creating the process for communicating with families so that they are aware of every opportunity to help foster their child's faith development and relationships within the church.

I see **Lesley Holt** pouring her heart into meeting after meeting so that our Renovation Team can stay on track. I see meals around her kitchen table and I think about the emails she sends to me even while she's on vacation.

I see **Heidi Hicks'** name on a volunteer spreadsheet and I think about her volunteering every Sunday teaching the 5- and 6-year-olds and I think about the "Helpers Board" she has in her room.

I see that **Kris Brumitt** has just updated the "Student Ministry Team meeting minutes" folder and I remember that each of the people on that team spent three hours planning events for our middle and high school students.

I see the receipt for a book I've ordered called *Leading a Special Needs Ministry* and I think about working with **Cindy Irej**, talking about and planning how we can help better serve our families...and then I think about **Randy Irej** greeting our students as they enter their Sunday School room.

I see **Dana Flora** and **Lee Brumitt** working to revise our Child Protection Policy so that our children are kept safe in our changing world. I remember the flood of emails sent and the lunches shared as we hammered out this document. You can check out that revised policy on our website!

I run across a note to myself to check in on **Jere Hanney's** new twin grandbabies and I think about his commitment to teaching our 1st-3rd graders and how excited he was when **Tina McGuire**, **Mary Ann Steinlicht**, and **Maria Hedrick** volunteered to teach, too.

This Sunday, take a minute to stop by the ONE SOLE PURPOSE table in the Parlor to see how your name can tell a story and how your heart can be opened by serving with our children and students.

Monica

Children and Families

First Steps of Faithfulness

Mar. 1, 9:55 a.m.

Beginning Mar. 1, join us the first Sunday of the month as families with children birth-2 years old explore how your infant or toddler comes to know God and what our role as parents can be in fostering faithfulness. 9:55 a.m., Rm. 215.

Club Kids

Mar. 1 – Power Play, Shawnee, KS. \$20 per person including dinner. Meet at church at 4:00 p.m. Return to the church at 6:30 p.m.

Easter Egg Hunt

Join other children and families for our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Sun., Mar. 22 at 12:15 p.m. on the Combs Chapel lawn. Lots of Easter activities and lunch.

Kansas City Zoo Overnight

Sat., Apr. 11–Sun., Apr. 12

All 3rd-5th graders are invited to join us for an overnight in the "wild." We will participate in an after-hours program at the Kansas City Zoo then spend the night in the Penguin Pavilion. We will conclude our program with a brief Sunday morning worship time. Cost is \$30, including meals and the zoo.

Child Protection Policy

The Country Club Christian Church Child Protection Policy has been updated. You can read the policy on our website at under the Children and Families tab at <http://cccckc.org/ministries-a-programs/children-a-families-ministry>.

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Our Church Family

In Sympathy

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

Shirley Kernodle Prather

Pam Johnson Raymond

Peggy Slentz-Jones

Ruth Stafford

PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. R. Glen Miles
Senior Minister

Rev. Carla Aday
Executive Minister

Rev. David Diebold
Minister of Music

Dr. Meredith Holladay
Minister of Spiritual Formation

Rev. Monica Lewis
Minister to Children,
Students and Families

Rev. Joe Walker
Minister of Congregational Care

Mr. Jason Ashley
Director of Building and Grounds

Ms. Rachel Clement
Director of Finance

Mr. Paul Cutelli
Director of Technology and
Administrative Services

Ms. Allie Cobb
Director of Student Ministries

Ms. Dina Pannabecker Evans
Associate Organist

Ms. Lindsay Howes
Director of Children's Ministries

Ms. Sally Huggins
Assistant Director of Communications

Ms. Lisa McCleish
Director of Early Childhood Programs

Mr. Michael Patch
Director of Children's and Youth
Choirs

Ms. Lara Schopp
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