



CHRISTIAN

Strength for the Journey. Grace for the Soul.

INSIDE

In Memory of
Fred
by Glen Miles
~~~  
page 3

Tools for  
Spreading Our  
Word  
by Lara Schopp  
~~~  
page 5

All Ages, One
Church
by Joe Walker
~~~  
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.*

## 6th Annual Celebration Dinner and Auction

The 6th Annual Celebration Dinner and Auction will be held on Sat., Apr. 25, at The Roasterie Bean Hangar, 1204 W. 27th Street, Kansas City, MO. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend this fun event!



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. Purchase your tickets in the Parlor beginning Sun., Mar. 22.

The dinner and auction 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.

**Auction Items** – Do you have auction items you'd like to donate? Contact contact Lisa Schmidt at 816-210-6335 or [lisachmidtkc@gmail.com](mailto:lisachmidtkc@gmail.com). Visit [www.cccckc.org/stay-informed](http://www.cccckc.org/stay-informed) for more information.

## Grace at Work Is April 18

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. 18, 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. Go to <http://tinyurl.com/gaw2015> to sign up.



## New Members Joined March 1



Michael & Sandy Pierce  
**New Member Host:** Shirley Hansell



Camille & Jorge Soto  
**New Member Hosts:** Lea & Terry Young



Fran & Judy Pease  
**New Member Host:** Esther Giffin

### 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 online by visiting [www.cccckc.org](http://www.cccckc.org). LifeTouch photographers will be here Mar. 24-28 and Apr. 28-May 2 to take photographs in the Social Hall.

## 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.

### Sign Up for 2015 Christian Community Camp

Sign up for a glorious week at the YMCA of the Rockies near Estes Park, CO. The 2015 camp will be Aug. 1-8. For many years, families and individuals from our congregation have gathered for a week of hiking, horseback riding, fishing, crafting, relaxing and fun at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park, Colorado. The group of 60-90 folks from ages 1 to 91 stays in a newly remodeled lodge with lovely mountain views. A private room costs \$1,650 or a bunk room is \$350, plus each participant pays a \$80 food and activity fee. For more information, go online to <http://tinyurl.com/camp2015>.



## In Memory of Fred

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



Fred Craddock, the finest preacher in America, died last Friday in Blue Ridge, Georgia. “Fred Craddock was a national treasure and a devoted servant of the church and Jesus Christ. His impact on preaching – in terms both of scholarship and practice – is incalculable,” said Tom Long, his friend and colleague in ministry.

I first met Fred when I was a young seminarian in Tennessee. I heard he was preaching at a Regional Assembly of the Christian Church in North Carolina. I drove my little Toyota Tercel over the Blue Ridge Mountains to the church where he was speaking. I had read a few of his books in school but had never heard him preach or seen him in person. I expected to see a man six feet tall with a booming voice. Instead, this short, little round person with a squeaky voice took the pulpit. I was shocked – until he started to preach. I was overwhelmed by the power and wonder of his words.

Fred’s preaching style evolved at a time when preaching in America was considered stale and tired. He once famously said that the problem with preaching is “that sermons are offered as though nothing were at stake.” His words haunt me every Saturday night as I review my sermon for the next day.

When I was in Atlanta I got to know Fred pretty well. He preached a few times for the church I was leading and he and I served on a committee of the regional church in Georgia. One time I wrote him a note to ask for help. “Fred, I’m working on improving my preaching. Is there a book or books you would recommend for me to read to help with this effort?” He wrote back, “You might try the Bible.” That was it. One line! And, he was right, too. The Bible, time and time again, has been the one place I have always returned whenever I’ve felt the need to renew and strengthen my work as a homiletician.

Fred had the uncanny ability to preach inductively, to invite the listener into a deeper conversation, not with the pulpit but with the sacred word. Fred believed that the church was the place where engagement with the text must happen. He wrote, “The believing community has never ceased bringing the Bible forward into each generation, making it a part of present values, relationships, world views and institutions.”

He was always more than willing to address difficult situations. In a recent interview he said, “The question is not whether the church is dying, but whether it is giving its life for the world.” He’s right about that to be sure.

I thank God for the life and witness of Fred B. Craddock.

## The Holy Land – In the Footsteps of Jesus

Join Glen and Julie Miles, Lauren Weinhold and Scott Fuller as they travel to the Holy Land Oct. 28-Nov. 6, 2015. Enjoy great food, comprehensive sightseeing and memorable fellowship. Stops include Haifa, Tiberias, Nazareth, Bethlehem and Jerusalem. Contact Lauren Weinhold at [weinhold.lauren@gmail.com](mailto:weinhold.lauren@gmail.com) for more information.

## Worship with us!

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

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

**Mar. 15**

Part 4: Be Still and Know  
*Psalm 46*

**Mar. 22**

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

**Mar. 29**

**Palm Sunday**  
It Was Already Late  
*Mark 11:1-11*

---

# Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

## March Collection Connection: Yarn

In March, we are collecting yarn for projects by our knitting group. They need baby yarn and yarn for warm scarves.

Recipients of the group's handiwork include:

- Truman Medical Center – the group supplies blankets and hats for the more than 200 babies born there each month;
- Cross-Lines Community Outreach – scarves for parents to give their teenage children as Christmas gifts;
- Headstart – hats and scarves for preschool children;
- Congregational Care Ministry at Country Club Christian Church – prayer shawls for homebound members.
- Della Lamb Community Outreach – hats for children at Christmas.

The knitters will find a use for whatever yarn you can donate. Please put your donations in the basket in the parlor during March.

---

## 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.

## Donations for Easter Egg Hunt

The deadline is Sun., Mar. 15, for dropping off your filled Easter eggs for our second annual Easter Egg Hunt on 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. 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!

---

## Virginia Reed Food Drive

The next food drive is Sun., Mar. 15. We have three ways to share the bounty with the hungry in our community:

1. Bring canned goods to our donation points in the parlor and the chapel, and at the doors any time. Please do not bring anything in a glass container. Cans, boxes and plastic containers all work well and are not accidentally broken as easily as glass.
2. Make a financial contribution to the Virginia Reed Food Drive on the Harvesters Community Food Network website ([christianchurch.harvestersvfd.org](http://christianchurch.harvestersvfd.org)). We will have a computer in the parlor on Mar. 15 for you to make your online contribution.
3. Make a financial contribution to the church and mark your check or giving envelope "food drive." You may place these gifts in the offering plate during worship.

Your gifts support the five area food pantries that our church supports: Community Christian Church, Alta Vista Christian Church, First Christian Church, Della Lamb Community Services and Cross-Lines Community Outreach.

---

## 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.



## Tools for Spreading Our Word

By Lara Schopp, Director of Communications



Recently I was telling my daughter about something I taught myself to do when I was her age.

“So what, you watched YouTube tutorials on it?” she asked, innocently.

At 10 years old, she’s never known a world without YouTube, Facebook and Instagram. Already her friends are getting their own social media accounts, and because I’m a rule follower and won’t let her have one until the officially sanctioned age of 12, I’m hearing, “But everyone else has one” on a loop.

Social media has really changed our world. We share photos and updates with people from our hometowns. We watch news break across the state and around the world in real time. Movements are organized by hashtags. Restaurants are reviewed on smart phones. Videos of cats doing funny things go viral. So do acts of violence. Never before have we been more electronically interconnected.

Virtual connectedness certainly has its benefits for churches. You can keep up with us on Facebook and Twitter, we can notify you by email if the building is closed for inclement weather, you can read the newsletter or listen to last week’s sermon on your smart phone. You can interact with the clergy and staff by commenting on or liking Facebook posts. You can communicate your love for the church by sharing our tweets, status updates, photos and videos. And I hope you do all of these things, and more, because when you do, it creates a ripple effect that helps to broadcast who we are and what we do to folks who might otherwise never have an opportunity to learn about all the great things Country Club Christian Church does and stands for.

But in addition to using all these electronic and virtual tools to share your love for your church, I hope you will use an old-fashioned approach, too.

Easter is just a few weeks away, so now would be a great time to issue an actual, face-to-face invitation to a friend or family member to come to Country Club Christian Church.

And starting this Sunday, Easter yard signs will be available for you to take home and post in your yard. I hope you’ll take one as a non-virtual status update to all of your neighbors about your church.

The work we do here at Country Club Christian Church is important and meaningful – more so than cat videos or celebrity tweets. So this Easter, I invite you to help us ensure the story of who we are and what we do goes viral, one tweet, share, yard sign or old-school conversation at a time.

Lara

## 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](http://ga.disciples.org) to see the schedule, workshop offerings and register online. See you in Columbus!

## Easter Yard Signs Available



Invite your neighbors to church on Easter by displaying one of our signs in your yard. Pick up a sign in the church office.

## Save the Date: Blood Drive on May 3

The Community Blood Center will be in our Social Hall on Sun., May 3, from 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. to receive donations. We appreciate Chris Niedner and our Monday evening Disciple Bible Study who are taking the lead on organizing the blood drive.

---

## Upcoming Student Events

### Senior Brunch

**Sun., May 3, 12:15 p.m., Youth Center.** Please send 10 of your high school senior's favorite childhood photos including one senior photo along with your student's plans after graduation to Jason Ashley at [jasona@cccckc.org](mailto:jasona@cccckc.org).

### High School Mission Trip

**June 14-20.** We are going to Chicago. Current high school students are invited to join in a week of fun, fellowship and mission work. Cost is \$500 per person. Scholarships are available upon request. Please contact Allie Cobb at [alliec@cccckc.org](mailto:alliec@cccckc.org) if interested in attending.

### 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](mailto:michaelp@cccckc.org).

## Baby Dedication



Kathryn Arend Meier with her parents, Nikki and Tom Meier

### Family Night for Children, Students and Their Families

April 12, 4:30-6:00 p.m.

“Breakfast on the Beach...for dinner.”  
Let's celebrate the week after Easter like Jesus' disciples, with fun and a meal!

- Music
- Fun activities
- Breakfast for dinner
- Getting to know other families



## All Ages, One Church

By Rev. Joe Walker, Minister of Congregational Care



The other day, in a meeting to plan a funeral, family members mentioned how much the deceased had appreciated the handmade card that one of our children designed during Advent in Advance. They had kept the card as a keepsake of the deceased's life-long relationship with our church.

I started to jot down a quick list of ways we are weaving together people of all ages. I am sure there are lots of other examples but I thought you might enjoy seeing these that came to mind. I thought first about **Randy Ire**y sharing his heartfelt reflection at the offer-

tory during all of our services, telling how his volunteering with our ministries with children enriches his spiritual life. That was powerful.

**Kurt Zschietzschmann** teaches our 3-4 year olds on Sunday mornings. Recently, Kurt also volunteered to visit one of our members who lives in a nearby retirement community. I asked Kurt why he felt called to help in this ministry at the far end of the age spectrum from his Sunday School class. He replied, "The best way of practicing the faith, I believe, is to take care of others whenever they're in need. Listening to someone who just needs to talk or being around for someone who is lonely can be uplifting for their spirit and mine."

**Jeff Johnson** and I were talking recently about his experiences during Grace at Work over the years. "It was fun," Jeff recalled, "working with people of all ages from 6 years old up to seniors, in doing something to help our community." Jeff and his teammates sorted food at Harvesters, an activity that provided a natural opportunity to visit as our members served alongside one another. Grace at Work is coming up on Apr. 18. Many of the agencies can use children ages 6 and up if with a parent, making this a great family-friendly ministry outing.

**Craig Doty** is beginning a second round of interviews with some of our senior members. He will be taking a photo and visiting with them about their life, history, and wisdom. Earlier, Craig conducted 10 interviews with long-time members of our church and those are available on CD in our library. Craig, who is active in Children, Student and Family Ministry, said, "I think it would be great to both show attention to and fellowship with our members who can't attend, and also potentially remind our members who are able to attend, not to forget our congregation members extend beyond our walls."

If you would like to explore how you can enrich your spiritual life through serving others, give me a call. You might start out by helping with deliveries in our Flower Ministry. Or become a greeter for our Funeral Ministry (you smile, hand out programs, and point to the restroom – pretty easy, yet very important for families and guests). Then, once you have your feet wet, there's no telling what creative ministries might become a very special spiritual path for you.

Joe

## Children and Families

### Easter Egg Hunt on March 22

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. This event for the whole family will have a petting zoo and the Easter Bunny. Please bring your cameras to take pictures with the Easter Bunny. Lunch provided. The egg hunts will be age-specific for children birth through 5th grade.

### 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.

### Club Kids

May 3 – 5:00-7:00 p.m.

### Sunday School Apps

Parents please check out the new *Grow, Proclaim, Serve!* app to help you reinforce our Sunday lessons.

- For iPhones, go to <http://tinyurl.com/curriculum-apple> to download the app.
- For Android phones, go to <http://tinyurl.com/curriculum-android>.

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. Go to <http://www.growproclaimserve.com/parents.html> to learn more about the curriculum.

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Kansas City, MO  
Permit No. 1498



6101 Ward Parkway  
Kansas City, MO 64113

Return Service Requested

## 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  
Director of Communications

The Country Club Christian: Copy must reach this office by Monday ten days prior to publication. Editor: Lara Schopp, [laras@cccckc.org](mailto:laras@cccckc.org)

816-333-4917 fax: 816-333-7538  
email: [office@cccckc.org](mailto:office@cccckc.org) website: [www.cccckc.org](http://www.cccckc.org)

# Our Church Family

## In Sympathy

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

**Marjorie Hagstrom**  
**Norma Gorsuch**

## Memorials

### Carol Chapman

Jane Quade

### Mary Ann Cooper

Mignon Clough  
Charles & Carrie Cooper  
Douglas & Beverly Irwin  
Hank & Joan Riffe  
UMB Bank

### Carl Corbin

Howard & Mary Gay Woosley  
Hank & Joan Riffe

### Laura Cray

Perry & Carolee Atha  
Douglas & Beverly Irwin  
Tom & Martha Lieser

### Carl Moeder

Landen & Dana Hillyard  
Rose Ann & Steven Rector

### Tom Plunkett

Louise Bennett

### Shirley Prather

Jeanne & Perry Cockayne

### Peggy Slentz

Paul & Mary Ella Klingsporn  
J. Harlan Stamper  
TRI C's Sunday School Class of Country Club Christian Church

### Barbara Williams

Doris Thompson

## Honorarium

**In honor of the Knitting and Sewing Groups of Country Club Christian Church**

Jeanne & Perry Cockayne