



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.*

## Capital Campaign Success

We are happy to announce success in reaching the goal for the current capital campaign!

Greg Lear, Capital Campaign Chair, made this announcement at the Congregational Board meeting on Apr. 8. The church has received gifts and pledges of \$5.085 million compared to the campaign goal of \$4.9 million.

The \$5.085 million amount includes \$1.225 million in pledges still outstanding. Some of these pledges are not scheduled to be paid for one to three years because of the generosity of members who extended their pledges when additional building costs were encountered. The



Cranes continue to lift new pieces of stonework into place.

church has not had to borrow yet, but will likely need to in June.

We are encouraging all members with outstanding pledges to be faithful in completing those pledges. Every dollar the church receives reduces the amount we will need to borrow.

If you are able to pay your pledge a little early, that would help the church tremendously.



Crews have begun installing pieces of the bell tower.

The generosity of church members and friends to the campaign has been remarkable and we thank you for your support.



New structural elements have been installed on the roof.



## New Members Joined on April 13



Rorric Pfalzgraf and Elizabeth Stumbaugh

**New Member Hosts:** Chris and Jaclyn Hains



Jennifer Hersh

**New Member Hosts:** Becky Little and grandchildren, Macy and Miles



Leslie, Ryan, Keegan and Colin O'Hara

**New Member Hosts:** Matt and Laura Wildman



Erin, Mitch, Eleanor and Lillian Feitz

**New Member Hosts:** Travis and Rachel Wymore

## Town Hall Meeting: Sharing Our Memories and Imagining Our Future

What message do we want to give the community about who we are as a church? How can our message and identity honor our past, reflect our theology and serve our neighbor?

### Town Hall Meeting

Sunday, April 27

12:15 p.m., Social Hall

The Congregational Board recently initiated a project to study our mission, vision and identity. Potential outcomes include new marketing approaches, a new name, and new signage. The project is expected to take about one year.

To kick off the project, a Town Hall meeting on Sun., Apr. 27 will focus on sharing our memories and imagining the future. We want to hear your stories, memories and experiences. We'll also explore what makes this church special, and what you think is important for our church's future.

The Town Hall meeting runs until 1:15 p.m. so do not park on Ward Parkway if you are planning to attend. Cars must be off Ward Parkway by 12:30 p.m.

## Staff Change

Lauren Weinhold has announced her resignation as Director of Church Growth. Lauren has been with the church as an employee for more than seven years, and as a member for more than 12. She will be joining an area law firm to work on outreach, education and advocacy issues in the firm's area of expertise. Lauren's last Sunday will be May 11. Lauren and her husband, Scott Fuller, look forward to remaining active church members.



## Pathways to Learning



**May 4** – Phyllis Byrd, Missionary to Kenya, will speak about her 23 years of service in Africa.

### Do you Know Your Urban IQ?

**June 1** – A panel of leaders from our Northeast PartNerShip.

**June 8** – A panel discussion on homelessness in Kansas City.

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



# Learning to See Where Our Enemy Cries

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



Brennan Manning was an evangelist and a writer. He continuously challenged churches to practice the love and grace of Jesus in their ministry. He used a story from Stephen Covey to make his point. Covey was riding the subway in New York City. There were very few passengers. Most were reading or dozing. Covey was deep into a book when a man, accompanied by three very young children, got on board. The kids ran up and down the aisle. They were loud, obnoxious, screaming, wrestling. The father made no attempt to calm them.

Riders were nervous, anxious. Covey expected the father at any moment to restore order, calm the kids down, but instead he did nothing. Covey said, as kindly as he could, "Sir, perhaps you could restore order here by telling your children to come back and sit down."

"I know I should do something," the man replied. "We just came from the hospital. Their mother died an hour ago. I don't know what to do."

Manning reflecting on this in light of the church writes: "The heartfelt compassion that hastens forgiveness matures when we discover where our enemy cries."

The call of the Church of Jesus Christ is to know where our enemy cries. The call of the Church of Jesus Christ is to give ourselves away in love to a world that is dying for good news.

Phillip Gulley calls this learning to cultivate a habit of kindness. John wrote two thousand years ago to the church instructing them (and us), "Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action."

That is a simple yet powerful word for all of us. At the end of the day the church is called to love in truth and action. We may not always agree on every theological tenet or political issue but our actions, our love, our willingness to cultivate kindness, will be more than enough to sustain our ministry for years to come.

Grace and peace to you,

## 2014 Stewardship Campaign Begins

This Sunday, Apr. 27, we will kick off this year's Stewardship Campaign. The theme for this year's campaign, Joy-Full, reflects gratitude and celebration for the many blessings we share as members of this community of faith. Join us in worship this Sunday to hear Esther Giffin, Stewardship Campaign Chair, share why she thinks giving to the church is important. And, mark your calendar for the Joy-Full Worship Service on Thurs., May 15, 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Pledge Celebration Sunday is May 18.



## Worship with us!

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

**Apr. 27**

Joy-Full Belief

*John 14: 8-14*

**May 4**

Joy-Full Confidence

*Philippians 1: 1-11*

**May 11**

Joy-Full Giving

*Philippians 4:10-19*

**May 18**

Joy-Full Love

*John 15: 1-11*



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# Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

## Northeast PartNerShip Chalk Walk April 26-27

Youth and their families are invited to work alongside our neighbors in the Northeast to create a beautiful chalk square at this annual festival. ALL church members and friends are invited to stop by anytime during the festival to see our youth working with their new friends on a beautiful work of art! The festival will be at the Kansas City Museum, 3218 Gladstone Blvd, Kansas City, MO. Sign up for shifts at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4AA5A623A0FC1-northeast>

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## New Items at The Well

Have you been in The Well lately? Check out new items from the recent Nicaragua mission trip and devotional books. The Well, our book and gift store, is 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.



## Green Team Plant Sale on May 4

Perennial native plants for your rain garden or home landscaping will be available at the Green Team's Plant Sale on Sun., May 4, on the church lawn between the Chapel and the main building from 9:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The Green Team will also have edible vegetables and herbs for you to plant into containers or tuck into your yard.

Proceeds will be used for landscaping at the church.



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## Reel Faith – Second Session Added

The May 4 session of Reel Faith is full so a second one has been added on Mon., May 5, at 6:00 p.m. The movie is the same – “The Way Way Back” – but because it is Cinco de Mayo, the Loves will serve a Mexican themed meal. 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. Call Mary Margaret House at 816-333-4917 to sign up.

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## April Collection Connection

In April, we are collecting healthy snacks, granola bars and single serving packaged fruit drinks, for 7th through 12th grade students at Southwest Early College Campus who will be taking the required Missouri state tests (EOC and MAP) for several weeks in late April and early May. The items will be used during their mid-morning test breaks. A majority of students participate in the school's subsidized lunch program. Please place your donations in the basket in the parlor.

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## Upcoming Race May Affect Traffic Routes to Church

On Sun., Apr. 27, the Sabates Eye Centers Trolley Run and Walk will begin at 7:45 a.m. at 75th Street and Wornall, this race heads north to the Plaza. This may influence your travel plans to and from church. Please be aware of this event and plan accordingly.



## Exits

By Hayley Holt, Interim Youth Director



I've been thinking a lot lately about exits. In our society, exits are often viewed as negative. Even the words "quit" and "leave" seem to hold negative connotation. Exits can be as small as going from one room to the next and as big as leaving your job and moving to a new city. An exit can be sad and it can be difficult; even scary. When there is an exit you're never just excited or just scared. It always seems to carry mixed emotions. In the resurrection story in Matthew that was read on Easter Sunday, the two Marys left the tomb with fear and great joy.

If Jesus had stayed in the tomb there would have been a "monument to the sadness" – as Glen said in his Easter sermon. Because he made an exit, there was new life and resurrection. This is the promise of leaving our old way of life to embrace the new. We don't always fully understand what the new way of life will look like, yet we are invited to embrace it with great joy.

When there is an exit, there is a promise of new life. So often we focus on the exit and forget the second part. As I prepare to leave my interim position as youth director, there is promise of new life – and not just for me, but for the church as well. The person who will serve next as youth director had to exit something else to have new life here. With them, they bring the promise of something new.

It has been a great joy to serve as the Interim Youth Director in this place. It has been a gift in my life to be around all of you and get to know the incredible youth in this church. I leave with fear and great joy, knowing the promise of new life that will be breathed into both your life and mine and excited for the opportunities for Country Club Christian Church's youth.

## The Lunch Bunch: Celebrating the Panama Canal

At the next Lunch Bunch, we welcome speaker Lisa Browar, President of the Linda Hall Library, to speak about the anniversary of the Panama Canal's opening. The Canal opened on Aug. 15, 1914, connecting the world's two largest oceans and signaling America's emergence as a global superpower. Learn how the Linda Hall Library is helping people appreciate the project's historical and contemporary significance. Tues., May 20 at 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$10 per person. RSVP to Mary Margaret House at 816-333-4917.



## 2014 Mission Trip to Joplin

May 22, 2014, is the 3rd anniversary of the Joplin tornado. On May 18-23, Country Club Christian Church will send a mission team to continue to help with the rebuilding process, and we will be in Joplin for the 3rd anniversary! If you are interested in joining the team to Joplin, stop by the table in the parlor on Sun., Apr. 13 or 27, or come to an informational meeting on Sun., May 4, following the 11:00 a.m. service. You can participate for all or part of the week, as your schedule permits. For more information about the organization we work through, Rebuild Joplin, go to [rebuildjoplin.org](http://rebuildjoplin.org). For more information, contact lay leader Betsy Wilson at [betcwilsonkc@yahoo.com](mailto:betcwilsonkc@yahoo.com) or 913-220-1059.

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## Upcoming Youth Events

### Chalk Walk Festival

**Sun., Apr. 27**, 1:00-5:00 p.m. Meet at the Kansas City Museum (3218 Gladstone Blvd., Kansas City, MO) 1:00-5:00 p.m. in place of Youth Group. There will be food trucks, friends, free chalk areas, and more!

### Senior Brunch

**Sun., May 4** – for seniors, families, and their faith mentors. Save the date for Senior Brunch at 12:15 p.m. in the Youth Center. Seniors will be recognized in the 11:00 a.m. worship service as well. Please RSVP to Jason Ashley at 816-333-4917 ext. 223 or [jasona@cccckc.org](mailto:jasona@cccckc.org).

### Family Night at Micah

Youth families are invited on May 12 to serve together at Independence Boulevard Christian Church's Micah Ministry. The next opportunity will be May 12. 14. Meet at Independence Boulevard Christian Church at 5:00 p.m.

### Service Hours Opportunities

**VBS July 27-31** – Volunteer hours available for youth. Let Hayley know if you'd like to help.

### Mission Trips

**Junior High to Houston - June 22-26** Middle School students will travel to Houston, TX to work with Urban Service Projects. They will also visit the Houston Aquarium. Cost is \$400 with a \$100 deposit due Apr. 30 and remainder due June 1. Scholarships are available based on need.

**Senior High to Chicago - July 13-19** High School students will work with Urban Youth Mission in Chicago, IL. They also will visit Second City. Cost is \$500 with a \$100 deposit due Apr. 30 and remainder due June 1. Scholarships are available based on need.

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## Pastors' Class Participants Baptized

Eleven youth at Country Club Christian Church have taken part in the 2014 Pastors' Class, led by Rev. Monica Lewis, Minister to Children, Youth and Families. On Palm Sunday, Apr. 13, these individuals made formal statements of their faith and some were baptized during the 11:00 a.m. service.



Top row: Rev. Monica Lewis, Carlee O'Neill, Hatch McCray, Daniella McCasland, Zoey Jensen, Stewart McCray, Josephine McCray, Dr. Glen Miles.

Front row: Jack Bartlett, Alliea Petty, Will Roske, Catherine Nearmyer, Dustin McCasland



## Raising “Our Kids”

by Rev. Joe Walker, Interim Minister of Congregational Care



Bailey, the oldest of our great-nieces and nephews, will celebrate baptism this Sunday and we could not be happier for her or for our whole extended family. She is just 10 years old, but Bailey’s gentle, natural smile signals to one and all that her beauty radiates from her kind and loving spirit. It is not surprising that when I asked Bailey to summarize what she learned in Pastors’ Class, she replied without hesitation, “to be a living Gospel.”

As the eldest among our great-nieces and nephews, Bailey represented the first of her generation to become a member of our nearby sister congregation, Raytown Christian Church. Bailey and her siblings are now the fifth generation of our extended family to call Raytown Christian Church their church home – a remarkable feat in this era of social mobility. In addition to Sunday worship and baptisms, Raytown Christian Church has hosted weddings (including Susan’s and mine) and funerals (our first generation of members), concerts, and launched innumerable choir and mission trips.

Recently someone asked me what I liked most about congregational life. I replied that I loved watching “our kids grow up in the church.” I must not have made myself clear because the person looked puzzled and reminded me that our son was already grown. Indeed, our son, Justin, is “all grown up” and now a parent himself. However, by “our kids” I meant all the children in the churches where I have been blessed to serve either as a member or minister. As church, arguably our central task (and also one of the most enjoyable and life-giving), is receiving, caring for, and then commissioning the children and youth who will follow us as we seek to follow Jesus.

I have watched “our kids” progress from elementary school and on to graduate from high school and college. Many fall in love and get married and have families of their own. One by one, they discover their vocation – their “calling” or purpose – in life. I see them take the lessons the church sought to impart – whether in sermons and classes or informal conversations or (best!) by lived example – and apply those in their home and neighborhood and workplace.

For me, the good news is that there will always be another generation coming along to be gifted into our care. There will always be new faces and funny (and sometimes sad) stories and exciting hopes and dreams and potential. On Sunday, as we are celebrating Bailey’s baptism, I will also be grateful for how God’s creation continues to marvelously unfold all around us in the wonderful youth who grace our churches and neighborhoods.

Joe

## Children and Families

### Omaha Zoo Overnight

**May 3-4 for 3rd-5th graders**

Travel by van to Omaha’s Henry Doorly Zoo for a campout in the Desert Dome. Evening activities include: night hike, games and activities, building tour, and sleeping in the Desert. Sunday morning we will have breakfast, a morning hike, then tour the full zoo in small groups, eat lunch and return home. Cost is \$100 per person, which includes transportation and fees plus meals at the zoo. Contact Monica Lewis with questions at [monical@cccckc.org](mailto:monical@cccckc.org) or 816-333-4917.

### Club Kids (3rd-5th graders)

**Sun., Apr. 27** – Let’s dive into a good book! One of the assistant librarians from the Corinth Library will be here to read with us. 5:30-7:30 p.m., Social Hall.

**Sun., May 11** – No Club Kids. Happy Mother’s Day!

**Sat., May 17** – Humane Society Service Project. 3:00 p.m. at 5445 Parallel Pkwy, Kansas City, KS. We will meet there.

### VBS – Save the Date!

Vacation Bible School will be July 27-31.



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## Memorials

### Anna June Huitt

C.R. & Barbara Alley  
J. Douglas Burton  
Barbara Gillen  
Dolores Henzlik  
John & Erma Hess  
Milburn & Evalyn Hobson  
Mary Jameson  
Terry & Gerald Martino  
Nadine Hammack & Family  
Raymond Mulinix  
Alford & Mary Mulinix  
James & Linda Overbay  
James & Deborah Person  
Erma Plank  
Richard & Carolyn Riffle

\*The previous issue of the newsletter erroneously listed Anna June Huitt as June Huitt. We apologize for the error.

## PROGRAM STAFF

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

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