



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.*

Della Lamb Refugee Resettlement House

Our Church Will Furnish a Home for Family of Six

The Northeast Initiative Team recently announced an all-church project with Della Lamb’s Refugee Resettlement Program. Together, our congregation will furnish an entire home (house or apartment) for a refugee family of six. Various Sunday School classes and other groups within the church have agreed to participate and have been assigned certain items to donate. In addition, anyone can sign up in the

parlor on Sun., May 10 and 17 to donate other items, such as chests of drawers, shelves, tables, chairs, couch, and lamps. We will also need cash donations for Della Lamb to purchase a few items such as bed frames, mattresses and box springs that must be new.



Several church members recently helped a refugee family get settled in their new home.

Della Lamb Community Services began a Refugee Resettlement Program
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Pledge Celebration Sunday Is May 10

Jazz Artist to Sing

The church-wide strategic plan is to worship God, grow spiritually and serve. In the pie chart, you can see how the generosity of our congregation makes this mission and ministry possible.



The first strategy is to “Experience the life changing love of God through WORSHIP” and this includes ministries such as weddings, funerals, baby dedications and special music on holidays in addition to weekly worship.



The second strategy is to “transform lives and deepen relationships through SPIRITUAL GROWTH” and this includes hundreds of classes and events such as Sunday School, small groups, Bible study, ice cream social, Thanksgiving dinner, Easter egg hunt.

The third strategy is the one that we invest the most of our resources into and that is “Express God’s love in tangible ways through SERVICE.” You have probably participated in this ministry through events like Grace at Work, mission trips, Micah ministry, visits to homebound members,
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Refugee Resettlement Project

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almost a year ago. In the last 10 months, they have established more than 60 homes for 150 plus individuals who have come to America through the program sponsored by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.



Volunteers recently helped set up a home for a refugee.

responsibility and Immigration Services.

Della Lamb's first responsibility to these

families is to provide an apartment or home: rent and utilities paid for the first month, fully furnished with furniture, housewares, and stocked with food. Mattresses, bedding and pillows must all be new, however there is a

great need for lightly used furniture, housewares and clothing. Donations of these items and volunteers to set-up these homes are needed. Financial donations are used to purchase items not donated.

These families are grateful to have come to the U.S. and are motivated to become self-sufficient. **Most are employed within 30-45 days.**

On Sun., May 17, the Koinonia Class will host representatives from Della Lamb during the Sunday School hour, 9:55-10:55 a.m., who will share more about the refugee resettlement program. Everyone is welcome to attend the presentation. If you or your class plans to attend, please contact Jason Ashley at jasona@cccckc.org so that we have enough chairs.

Stewardship

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visiting communion or back snacks.

Please bring your pledge card to worship this Sunday, May 10, when we will dedicate our gifts and ourselves to the ministry that God calls us to share. Bukeka Blake-more will sing at all three services and the children will join her for a special musical thank you to all of you!



Coming in June! Lemonade on the Lawn

June 1, 8, 15, 22

On the first four Monday nights in June we'll gather on our lawn for lemonade and fellowship at 6:30 p.m. Come for a glass of lemonade and a snack. Stay for conversation – or study – or meditation! At 7:00 we'll break up into small group options:



○ **Men's Bible Study with Glen Miles** – *Great Leaders, Flawed Souls*. A Bible study for men focusing on the stories of Moses, Joshua, Saul and David. These men were great leaders. They were used by God to do something amazing yet each one was also deeply flawed in some way. We will look at the lives of these biblical leaders to see that God can use us in profound ways.

○ **Podcast Group with Carla Aday** – This group will discuss a selection of episodes from the *On Being* podcast, hosted by Krista Tippett. The episodes include:

- “The Calling of Delight” with Father Greg Boyle
- “The Mystery and Adventure of Life and Songwriting” by Joe Henry

- “Mindfulness, Suffering and Engaged Buddhism,” Thich Nhat Hanh, Cheri Maples and Larry Ward

- “Finding God in All Things” with James Martin

○ **Book Group with Meredith Holladay**. This group will discuss Lauren Winner's newest book, *Wearing God: Clothing, Laughter, Fire, and Other Overlooked Ways of Meeting God*. Homework optional! Feel free to read along, or just come and participate in the conversation. About the book: “Chapters on God as clothing, laughter, flame, food, and wine not only invite us to understand God in a new way, but each reveals God to be much closer and more intimate than we imagine, opening up the opportunity for experiencing and knowing God more deeply. If God has felt distant or absent, or if your reading of scripture has become cold or rote, reading *Wearing God* can serve as the hymn that revives you.”

○ **Meditation/Spirituality Group** – A time to experience different ways of being present to God through spiritual practices and meditation.

○ **Volunteer with the Green Team.**

Childcare will be provided. Students are encouraged to attend one of the groups!



Winning and Losing with Grace

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



Winning and losing with grace is the key to being the kind of person that people want to be around, whether you are playing a game, working on a project or simply enjoying a cup of coffee. Learning to be gracious resides at the heart of the Christian life.

Graciousness begins with forgiveness. Grace is founded in the ability to recognize our need for forgiveness and our need to be forgiving toward others.

This may also be the single most difficult thing we are ever instructed to do as Christians. Time and time again, in my office, in coffee shops and in my own personal life, the issue of forgiveness finds its way to the center of many concerns.

This is where Jesus can help us. He reminds us that we will experience forgiveness to the extent that we are willing to forgive. For the Christian, forgiveness is the fuel that runs our engine. This is not always easy for us to embrace. Often, we are tempted (I know this personally as well as pastorally) to turn acts of forgiveness into bargaining chips and negotiations to get what we want in the long run, to stay ahead in the game (whatever the game might be).

Commenting on this idea Tom Long writes, “Forgiveness is not a matter of bookkeeping; it is part of a living relationship with God and others...Forgiveness is to the Christian life like breathing; constant and life-giving.”

Life is no easy task. Anyone who lives with any sort of compassion knows that there is brokenness everywhere. Sometimes the brokenness resides within your own soul. Many times the only way to heal that wound is through the balm of forgiveness.

Peter asks Jesus “How often should I extend forgiveness?” Jesus says, “seventy times seven.” That is an enormous number. The point is clear. It is not about how often. It is not about bookkeeping. It is about a clear and conscious choice to both give and receive forgiveness.

Long concludes, “What we breathe in from God’s mercy we express to others. Exhale. Forgive us, as we forgive; as we forgive, forgive us.”

Peace to your path,

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 for more information.

Worship with us!

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

**For the Love of ...
May 10**

Part 3: For the Love of Each Other
Philippians 2:1-11

Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

Mission Teams to Mungeli, India

Information Meeting on May 17

Join us at 12:15 p.m. on Sun., May 17 in Rm. 201 for an informational meeting about this trip to India. In January 2016, two teams from Country Club Christian Church will head to Mungeli, India to serve at Christian Hospital Mungeli. The first will go from about January 4-17, and the second from about January 13-26. Each team will work at the Mungeli Christian Hospital complex for about nine days. No special qualifications are needed—there is something for everyone to do! During the time the teams overlap, they will tour Delhi and the Taj Mahal and perhaps take a safari to Kanha National Park.

Reservation forms and deposit checks (\$200) will be accepted beginning at the meeting on May 17. There are limited spaces available, and spots will be assigned in the order of the receipt of your check. If more checks are received at the meeting than there are spots available, team members will be chosen by lottery. If you are not chosen, your deposit check will be returned. If you are not assigned to your first choice of dates, and you have indicated at the meeting that you cannot go the other dates, your check will be returned. Otherwise the deposit is nonrefundable.

May Collection Connection

Shoes for Micah Ministry

Guests at Micah Ministry not only receive a hot meal and friendly conversation, but they are invited to the clothing closet. This month our church is collecting new and gently used shoes for them. We need shoes for children, women and men but we especially need men's tennis shoes and women's flip-flops or sandals. Please place your donations in the bin in the Parlor.

Forum on Programs and Ministries

Sunday, July 12, 12:15 Social Hall

Save the date! Everyone is welcome to this gathering to learn more about the wide variety of ministries and programs of the church. There will also be time for questions and comments.

Pathways to Learning: Aging Gracefully



June 7 – Caring for the Caregiver.

Penny Shaffer R.N., M.A., is Program Director for Health and Human Services at Johnson County Community College. Sanctuary.

June 14 – Aging and Alzheimer's.

Eric Vidoni, PT, Ph.D., Research

Assistant Professor. Dr. Vidoni is Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Neurology at the University of Kansas Medical Center. Social Hall.

June 21 – Family Conversations. Peter Holt, M.D., Maxwell G. Berry, M.D., Endowed Chair in Primary Care and Geriatrics at Saint Luke's Hospital and Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine at University of Missouri at Kansas City. Social Hall.

10:00 a.m. Everyone welcome. Free.

Church Words Continues through May 17

Learn some of the daunting “churchy” words and understand and deepen your faith along the way. Taught by Dr. Meredith Holladay. Sundays, 9:55-10:55 a.m., Rm. 302. Come to one or all of the remaining sessions. All are welcome. May 10: Ecclesiology: What's the church for, anyway? May 17: Eschatology: Left Behind, the Rapture, and other fun things.

The Well Is Moving! Close-Out Sale

After many years of being located on the lower level of the church, The Well will move upstairs in a more convenient location that will be easier to find and more accessible. To make this transition easier and to bring a fresh new look to The Well, we are closing out the inventory in the old space. Seasonal items including Christmas, Valentine's Day and Easter are now 75 percent off and any everyday item with a red line through the price is 50 percent off. Everyday items include eye ware, scarves, jewelry, Trapp Candles, Zum Soap, Table Talk games, home décor and stationary items. Bibles, books, plush animals and fine jewelry will not be included in this sale. Please come visit The Well and take advantage of the sale items and look for us in our new space this fall!





An Exciting Year

By Allie Cobb, Director of Student Ministries



It's hard for me to believe that it has been a little over a year since I began working with the incredible students, families, and people here at Country Club Christian Church. Last month while attending a Renovation Team meeting, more than a dozen committed individuals from the student and children's ministry teams shared some of the many inspirational experiences we have witnessed this past year along with our exciting plans for the 2015-2016 year.

While listening to the many successes we have accomplished together this past year, I began to reflect on how much progress we have made. I also couldn't help but get really excited for the plans ahead.

In my first few months of being here I went on the middle school and high school mission trips. At the beginning of those trips, I only knew a few of the students. However, after spending a week with them I felt like a part of their family. I learned so much about each student individually. These mission trips are such a huge part of growing their relationships with each other as well as serving the community. A part of me was exhausted and happy to be home, but I also found myself sad not to be seeing these extraordinary students every day.

And now the 2015 High School Mission Trip and the Middle School "Staycation" Mission Trip are almost upon us! Our high school students will be returning to Chicago June 14-20 and our middle school students will be serving Kansas City with the Northeast PartNership June 22-23. Please let me know if your student is interested in participating on one of these memorable trips. You can reach me at alliec@cccckc.org.

Another one of the biggest accomplishments this year is the formation of the Student Ministry Team. This team has been meeting twice a month since December 2014, working to bring an exciting new Sunday school format and Student Group events for 2015-2016. I can hardly wait to see all the memories and new friends we will make in the coming year!

ALLIE

2015 Celebration Dinner and Auction

"Partying Under the Plane" brought plenty of "Joy for the Journey" to Country Club Christian Church on Apr. 25 at the Roast-erie Bean Hanger in Kansas City. The evening was a success on many levels with 196 people attending.

Net revenue of **\$56,144** will support Mission and Ministry programs of the church, exceeding our goal, and Fund A Need raised **\$4,150** for the Della Lamb Refugee Resettlement Program.

Congratulations and thank you to everyone who was able to join the fun that evening, to Uberdine Catering, and to the Celebration Dinner and Auction Committee:

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| Lori Bennett | Invitation Design |
| Andy Berry | Benefactors |
| Brian Campbell | Ticket Sales |
| Marie Hunter | Event Night |
| Jason Roske | Auctioneer |
| Lisa Schmidt | Auction Items |
| Karen Gallagher | |
| Amy Holmes | |
| Tim Webster | |
| Barbara George | Event Chair |
| Lara Schopp, Sally Huggins, Rachel Clement | -Staff Support!! |

Food Drive May 17

On Sun., May 17 we will be collecting food and donations for the Virginia Reed Food Drive. We have three ways to share the bounty with the hungry in our community: Bring canned goods to the donation points at the doors; make a financial contribution to the Virginia Reed Food Drive on the Harvesters Community Food Network website (christianchurch.harvestersvfd.org) or make a financial contribution to the church and mark your check "food drive" and place it in the offering plate. during worship or in the box in the parlor.

Pastors' Class Reunion Breakfast

As the Ministries to Children, Students, and Families begins to create a lifelong mentorship program, we are working to foster the existing intergenerational relationships in our church. People who have participated in Pastors' Class as a faith mentor or student between 2009 and 2015 gathered May 3 to share breakfast, a lot of laughs, and catch up with each other.



Pictured above, faith mentor Lesley Holt and Sophie Nearmyer.

On the right, faith mentor Karen Robinson and Parker Hoffman.



Our Graduating Seniors



Graduating high school seniors were recognized during the 11:00 a.m. service on May 3, followed by a brunch for them and their families. Left to right, Miguel Murguia, MaKenna Lockhart and Parker Hoffman.

Upcoming Student Events

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 if interested in attending.

Middle School Mission Trip

June 22-23. Students in grades 6-8 will engage in ministry opportunities as part of our PartNERShip in Northeast Kansas City. This is a free experience for students. Please contact Allie Cobb at alliec@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917 for more information.

Service Hours Opportunity

June 5-7 – VBS. Contact Lindsay Howes at lindsayh@cccckc.org if interested in volunteering.

High School Nicaragua Trip Information Meeting

High school students and families are invited to join us for a conversation about next year's mission trip to Nicaragua. Plan to attend one of these information sessions:

- Sun., May 17 10:00-10:30 a.m., Room 202
- Tues., May 19, 6:00 p.m., Youth Center

Bring your school and activity calendars so we can compare those to summer dates available through our CEPAD mission partners (cepadnica.org). During these meetings you will also receive information on the estimated cost of the trip and travel logistics (passport, immunizations, etc.). If you are interested in this trip but not able to attend a session, contact AllieC@cccckc.org.



“Moore” than the Activity

By Rev. Joe Walker, Minister of Congregational Care



When we think about our outreach, service and mission ministries we often start by imagining the activity that we want to accomplish. We plan to serve a meal at Micah, read a book at Hartman, or staff the patient in-take in Nicaragua. Certainly the physical activity is important and meets a real need; however, at the same time, we strive to structure our ministries so they also provide a vehicle or context for meaningful human interactions.

Our mission team that served last month in Moore, OK, returned with stories of blessed encounters

and sometimes surprising insights. For instance, Betsy Wilson shared this experience from their trip: “Most of the time I go on a mission trip to serve those who have been affected by a disaster or difficult times. Sometimes the tables get turned and I find myself on the receiving end of someone’s generosity. That was the case when our Moore mission team was working on a shed for a family. Despite our best efforts, our group was unable to successfully correct the off-balance shed. However, when the family learned we would be going to a local restaurant to eat lunch, they insisted on making us lunch.

Soon we were all seated in the family’s kitchen sharing a meal. We were not just eating lunch but sharing in community and fellowship with our neighbors. It is this connection on a human level that I’ll remember most from our trip to Oklahoma.”

On another day, rain forced the team indoors and they volunteered at a food pantry. Susan Garner recalled, “Linda Reeves and I were helping this one older woman with her grocery selections. We could tell she had suffered some tough times, however, she entertained us with her wonderful sense of humor, and she bragged about her great cooking. Linda and I listened to her stories as we helped her with her shopping. After she left with her basket full of groceries, Linda and I agreed that it was she who had been the one who lifted us up.”

We are grateful to our Moore, OK, team both for their ministry on this trip and for sharing some of their stories with us. When we serve and share our insights, we illumine and celebrate our oneness as children of God. We also appreciate all those who support our ministries directly or indirectly with time, talent, and treasure. For information about how you can be a part of our church’s many different types of service and spiritual growth opportunities, call or email me and we will find one that is just right for you.

Joe



Members of our Moore Mission Team posed in front of a home where they helped repair the tornado damaged roof.

Children and Families

First Steps

May 10 – 10:00 a.m. in Room 215. For families of children birth to 2-years-old.

Vacation Bible School

June 5-7, Friday-Sunday, ages 2 years-5th grade, Free

2-year-olds – Fri., June 5, 6:00-8:00 p.m., and Sun., June 7, 10:00 a.m.-noon

3 years through 5th grade – Fri., June 5, 6:00-8:00 p.m; Sat., June 6, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; and Sun., June 7, 10:00 a.m.-noon

Family Fun Day – Sun., June 7, 12:15 p.m.

Register at <http://tinyurl.com/ccckc-vbs> or in the parlor on Sunday.

Preschool and Parents Day Out Accreditation Awarded

The Country Club Christian Church Parents Day Out and Preschool Program have been approved for the sixth consecutive accreditation.

Our review team was here Wed., Apr. 29. As strengths, some of the noted areas were: child/staff interactions, displays of the children’s work, attention to health and safety of the children, learning environments, variety of communication methods and the welcoming/friendly reception from the director.

The report had NO recommendations. Recommendations are areas that must be improved and would require us to pay additional fees for a second visit. We were also not given any enhancements – suggestions, not requirements, for improvement.

You may recall, there was an administrative error (on their part) and our visit was moved up from next fall to “before the end of the school year.” The typical preparation is 6-12 months, and we had less than 6 weeks.

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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 Communciations

Ms. Lisa McCleish
Director of Early Childhood Programs

Mr. Michael Patch
Director of Children's and Youth
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Our Church Family Sympathy

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

Jerry Yantzi

Memorials

Laura Cray
Cam & Shirley Schutte

Norma Gorsuch
Alan & Susan Garner

Byron Shutz
Greg & Nancy Lear
Cam & Shirley Schutte

Peggy Slentz
Maureen McGinty
Jo Strickler

Carolyn Young
Carol Nichols

Thank you, Photo Directory Volunteers!

Country Club Christian Church just concluded the final scheduled week of photography for our new photo directory coming out this fall. As a part of the directory process, the church needed lots of volunteer assistance, from getting members to sign up for time slots to registering and processing the participants when they arrived at the church for their pictures. To all of the volunteers who agreed to do this, thank you so much! Without your help, this directory would not happen. As you encounter these volunteers, please be sure to thank them as well.

Carol Crouch
Jacqueline Cyphers
Karen Gallagher
Greg Garrison
Gloria Findley-Grogger
Laura Heady
Mary Margaret House
Diane Jones

Mary Lehoczky
Phil Love
Kathy McDandel
Sally Nielsen
Ruth Rader
Fran Rainey
Marcia Ramsey
Betsy Wilson