



CHRISTIAN

Strength for the Journey. Grace for the Soul.

INSIDE

Learning to Pray
by Glen Miles
≈≈≈
page 3

Everything You Needed to Know
by Lisa McCleish
≈≈≈
page 5

In or Out
by Chuck Murphy
≈≈≈
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.

Summer *Espresso* Service Starts Sunday

June 9 - Aug. 11 • 9:00-9:45 a.m.

Have baseball tickets, yard work or a family barbecue on your Sunday schedule this summer? Grab your coffee and join us for the Summer Espresso Service!

Summer Espresso is our regular 9:00 a.m. worship service, tailored to 45 minutes or less to get you on your way to your busy summer plans.

Or, stick around after worship and join Glen and the other clergy in the Parlor for coffee and fellowship.



Kicks off Sun., June 9, with lattes, cappuccinos, espressos, chai tea and mochas in the Parlor from 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

And pick up a coupon for 25% off at the Roasterie.

Ice Cream Social Kicks Off Celebration of Service Week

Sun., July 7, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

This year the church will observe “Celebration of Service Week” from July 7-13. During this week, we will thank the servants and leaders of the church’s various council or ministry areas. The celebration will launch on Sun., July 7, as we honor the church members’ service to God and neighbor during the annual Ice Cream Social from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. Featuring complimentary



hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken sandwiches, Foes’ custard and toppings, and the ever-popular balloon artist.

As we celebrate together the great ministry that we share, we will pause to honor our outgoing chairpersons of the Elders and Congregational Board and welcome our incoming Chair of the Congregational Board and Chair of Elders.



2013 Stewardship Campaign

Thank you to everyone who turned in a pledge card to our 2013 Stewardship Campaign. We are still collecting your pledge cards, so if you have not yet turned in your card, please drop it in the offering tray today, bring it to the church office at your convenience or visit www.cccckc.org/ give to make your pledge electronically. Beginning in next week, follow-up calls will be made to households which have not yet turned in pledge cards. Thank you for your generous support of Country Club Christian Church.



Summer Assemblies Present Speakers on Discipleship

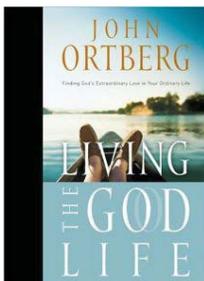
Gather for "Assembly" on the first Sunday of each month this summer in the Social Hall from 9:55-10:55 a.m. A speaker will present a 15-20 minute lesson and then the Assembly will divide into smaller groups to discuss the topic that has been presented. Some of the adult Sunday School classes will attend, and the Assembly is open to everyone in the church interested in learning and sharing in the topic. The theme is "Disciples of Christ."

Disciples of Christ . . .

- **On a Journey** – Phil Love, Co-chair of Adult Education Council, July 7
- **Making Covenants** – Paul Diehl, Regional Minister of the Greater Kansas City Region, Aug. 4

Sermon Series: Living the God Life

This series, "Living the God Life," is based on Paul's letter to the church in Galatia and is inspired by John Ortberg's book of the same title. Paul invites them to consider what it means to live with the grace and peace of God at the center of their lives. He reminds them that there is "no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." That's what living the God life looks like.



June 9 Part 2: God's Family

Galatians 3:23-29

June 16 Part 3: To Boldly Go ...

Galatians 5:1,13-25

Staff Change



Rev. Justin Zeigler has announced his resignation, effective July 27, 2013. Justin has been on staff here for five years, most recently as the Minister to Youth.

"I know you shared my pride in Justin as we celebrated his ordination last Sunday, and likewise I'm sure you share my gratitude to Justin for his years on our staff as a creative and spirited mentor to our youth and talented worship leader. Justin leaves us with exciting plans for the next phase of his life, and I wish him every success as he embarks on this journey," said Dr. Glen Miles.

On Aug. 1, Justin will join Americorps in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where he will work in the GLBTQ population to educate, provide prevention tools, and breakdown stigmas attached to HIV/AIDS. "This congregation has taught me that church happens far beyond church walls, and this is what my new role is about. My new work will allow me to build community, comfort those who feel isolated as we work for justice, and bring celebration to a world that needs joy. I ask for your prayers as I take on this new adventure," said Justin.



Learning to Pray

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



I find the practice of prayer powerful and difficult at the same time. The powerful moments come when my prayer life is in full swing and I realize I can handle almost anything that comes along. When I make space in my schedule for 30 minutes of quiet time spent in silence there is a very real sense of joy and satisfaction that begins to build with every half hour of prayer.

The difficulty comes in making the practice a regular habit. Thirty minutes does not seem like that much but when a deadline is looming or an event is about to happen, it is sometimes easy to ignore the time for prayer and get after whatever is before me.

I've learned, though, that when I take the time I need to focus on God and God's love for us, the various issues and crises of the day are rarely hard to face. This is not to imply that God fixes things for us when we learn to pray; "to rejoice in the Lord always," as Paul puts it. No. Rejoicing like this helps us to be grounded. It is a spiritual anchor that helps us pay attention to the things that matter the most in God's world.

This practice of prayer, like most things that are important, is easier said than done. However, one of the keys to learning to pray is to adopt the Nike slogan: "Just do it." The next step is to decide when. Dan Postema in his book *Space for God*, writes, "I used to write in my daily calendar, '7:00-7:30 AM – Prayer.' But many times I passed that up. It was one more thing to pass by that day. Now I write '7:00-7:30 AM – GOD.' Sometimes that is a little harder to neglect."

His words were helpful to me at a time when I felt overwhelmed by my schedule. They were a reminder that celebrating God and God's presence in the world through prayer is not about waiting to be in the right mood, or having enough time, it's about making time for God.

Do you realize that Jesus was considered a wild-eyed radical for suggesting that anyone at any time could go to God in prayer? We may not think of it as a radical act anymore but it still has the power to change our lives.

Today in my quiet time I prayed for you, the members and friends of Country Club Christian Church. It was a wonderful moment and a powerful reminder of the beauty of this community of faith.

Grace and peace to you,

New Member Sunday June 16

We welcome new members on special New Member Sundays. The next opportunity will be at the 11:00 a.m. service on Sun., June 16. Email or call Lauren Weinhold, Director of Church Growth, to express your desire to join the church. Lauren will work with you to make your New Member Sunday a memorable and meaningful one. Contact Lauren at laurenw@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917.

Worship with us!

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

**Living the God Life
Sunday, June 9**

Part 2: God's Family
Galatians 3:23-29

Sunday, June 16

Part 3: To Boldly Go ...
Galatians 5:1,13-25

Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

2013 General Assembly – Teach Us to Pray

The theme of the 2013 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) “Lord Teach Us to Pray” calls us to pray deeply for God’s direction, strength, courage, and initiative in mission. It offers the opportunity for praying communities of Disciples to connect with each other as the family of God.



The theme is based on Luke 11:

1-4. In the gospel of Luke, the original disciples cry out, “Lord, teach us to pray.” They’ve already been busy preaching and prophesying and healing in Jesus’ name. Their desire for prayer this far into their ministry reminds us that our motivation for action comes from our vital relationship with the living Christ. Our energy for mission comes from the Spirit of God. We are fueled for our mission by a life of communicating with God through prayer.

The General Assembly will be July 13-17 in Orlando, FL. Information and registration materials are available at www.disciples.org/ga.

Dr. Glen Miles will preach on Saturday evening, July 13. We will have a watch party that night in the Youth Center (Rm. 205) beginning at 6:00 p.m. Pizza will be provided.

Rose Garden Memorial Bricks Available

Honor your loved ones with an engraved memorial brick in the Rose Garden pathway. In addition to inurnment in the Columbarium or the scattering of ashes in the Rose Garden, engraved memorial bricks are available to past and present members and their immediate families. Price is \$350 each and includes brick, imprinting and placement. Contact Chuck Murphy at 816-333-4917 or chuckm@cccckc.org for more information.



Virginia Reed Food Drive on June 16

On Sun., June 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.”

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 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.



Everything You Needed to Know

by Lisa McCleish, Director of Early Childhood Programs



The subject of God and Jesus has been a frequent topic of discussion among the preschoolers and pre-Kindergarten children this year. Occasionally, the teachers have asked the children questions out of curiosity, but frequently children will start sharing their thoughts and beliefs without any prompting.

This is what we “learned” this year:

- We talk to God because that’s who listens to our prayers.

- When you pray, you are talking to God—just like you talk to a friend.
- Before you eat your lunch, and dinner, you have to pray—that’s talking to God.
- When I have a bad dream, I talked to Jesus and he made those dreams go away.
- God gives you the food you need. If there isn’t enough food, just go to the grocery store because God puts more there.
- God is really nice.
- God helps people not be dead.
- I should tell God I am three and a half. And I like toys.
- He loves us.
- I always tell God, “I love you.”
- God has a moustache and blond hair. He doesn’t wear shoes. (*This comment resulted in a long discussion about what God looks like*).
- He is young, but he has a beard.
- He is old.
- God is golden but you can see through him.
- God is a shape, like a rectangle.
- (*Our favorite*) You know what? God really, REALLY likes me.

Lisa

Sign Up for 2013 Christian Community Camp

We still have a few openings for Christian Community Camp, a glorious week at the YMCA of the Rockies near Estes Park, CO.



The 2013 camp will be Aug. 3-10, 2013. A registration form and a \$250 non-refundable deposit will hold your place. Cost is \$1,500 for a private room; \$250 for the bunk room. Each private room sleeps a maximum of six people. A bunkroom contains all bunks and sleeps six to eight. We have a male bunk room and a female bunk room available. Food and activity fee of \$75 per person. For more information, contact Jane Fletcher at janef@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917.

Vacation Bible School: Galilee by-the-Sea

July 29 – Aug. 2, 9:00 a.m. - Noon

Imagine what it was like to live and work in a seaside town along the Sea of Galilee. This VBS immerses learners of all ages in Bible-times culture, helping kids and adults explore what it might have been like to live when Jesus did. Participants will experience new traditions, taste new foods, try new arts and crafts projects and have playful recreation. For ages 4 years old through 5th grade. Cost is \$7 per day, \$60 maximum per family. Pick up a registration form in the children's wing on the second floor.



June Collection Connection

Yarn for Christmas

Our very own Knitting Ladies are already preparing for Christmas gifts! They will be making warm winter scarves for the Cross-Lines Community Outreach Christmas Store. The Christmas Store enables families and individuals the opportunity to shop for gifts. Families receive a clothing outfit, toys, a household item and a meal. Imagine a table piled high with beautiful and colorful winter scarves waiting for the holiday shoppers.

Please bring your yarn donation (preferably not baby yarn) to the parlor or send a check to the office marked "June Collection Connection."

Upcoming Youth Events

Sunday Night Youth Group

5:30-7:30 p.m.

All 6th-12th graders are invited to join us on Sunday evenings. Each Sunday of the month focuses on a different path designed to help youth transform lives and relationships through spiritual growth, express God's love in tangible ways, and experience the life changing love of God through fellowship and worship.

June 16 – No Youth Group. Celebrate Father's Day with your family.

June 23 – Game Night. Come and play some of Justin's favorite games.

Schlitterbahn Water Park

June 9

All youth are invited to Schlitterbahn Water Park on Sun., June 9. Meet in the Youth Center at noon for lunch and then we will head out. Cost is \$25 per person, including lunch at church. RSVP to Justin Zeigler at justinz@cccckc.org. The park is at 9400 State Avenue, Kansas City, KS.

Chi Rho Mission Trip

This summer the 6th-8th graders will go to Indianapolis, IN, July 7-12 to work on justice projects including working with people who experience poverty and people who are striving to escape violence. This is a great opportunity to learn how to serve in a very direct way as well as be in a new city and have some fun! Contact Justin Zeigler, justinz@cccckc.org.

CYF Mission Trip

CYF will travel to Chicago July 21-27 to continue working in the city with local organizations to address issues of homelessness, poverty and racial injustices. Contact Justin Zeigler, justinz@cccckc.org.



In or Out

by Chuck Murphy, Minister of Congregational Care



“It’s in!” “No, it’s out!” We would play marbles when I was in school. The game we played was called Rings (or Circles). We drew a large circle in the dirt. Every player would have to ante up, putting in a certain number of marbles in the circle. Then, each player would take turns using their “shooter,” or “taw,” marble to knock the other marbles out of the circle.

We played for “keeps.” You got to keep the marbles you knocked out of the circle. The marbles in your ante were the ones you didn’t like, or weren’t afraid to lose. However, your taw marble was one of your best – it was bigger and it was your favorite, and by far the one that was closest to your heart. If, when the last marble was knocked out of the circle and your taw marble was still in, the other players could shoot and take your taw marble if they knocked it out of the circle.

Whether a marble was in or out, when the marble landed on the line (or, outside the line, depending on your point of view) often resulted in a big argument. The argument got even bigger if the marble in question was your taw marble. The irony, of course, is you saw a marble as in or out depending if you were the shooter or not. What was seen as in or out was what benefitted you.

The church has wrestled with the question who is in and who is out for over two millennia. Socially, our city has wrestled with who is allowed in our neighborhood and who to keep out. Politically, immigration and healthcare reform revolve around who is to be in and who is to be left out. Of course, how we tend to see and interpret the rules, like in marbles, has everything to do with how the rules benefit us. And, if the issue in question, like your taw marble, is closer to your heart, the greater the argument becomes.

For persons who experience pain or loss, being called out only deepens their pain. Scriptures record many healings to those who were called out, like Jesus’ ministry to lepers and the woman at the well. I am convinced that a big part of Jesus’ healings to those who had been called out, was the assurance of his voice that they were called “in.” Jesus saw them on the line, and declared them in; by faith, they realized they were loved and accepted into God’s family.

In congregational care, our ministry assures those who are hurting that they are in, that God loves them and they are a part of God’s family. Whether it is serving one who is homebound communion, compassionate listening by our Stephen Ministers or by a companion who visits, the bereaved are called in. The ministry reminds them that they are always in – in God’s love all their days.

Chuck

Children and Families

Fountains of Faith Sunday School

The Gospel According to Dr. Seuss

June 2013

The Grinch, Horton, Sneetches and more will provide the focus for our summer June Sundays as we explore how Dr. Seuss’ characters share the grace and love of God with us. Through watching or hearing the stories we will see how these stories connect with our faith. Look for a visit by The Cat in the Hat on June 23. Join us for this combined session each Sunday in Room 212 from 9:55 – 10:50 a.m.

Fifth Graders Movin’ Up

Youth who have completed fifth grade are invited to join in Sunday School with Chi Rho (6th – 8th graders). The summer Sunday School time provides a great transition for our incoming 6th graders to get to know Justin Zeigler and the middle school group. Join all on from 9:55 – 10:55 a.m. in the Chi Rho room (Rm. 202).

Infant Dedications

Next infant dedication date is Father’s Day – June 16, 2013.

Tall Oaks Summer Camp

Summer is coming quickly and it is time to explore a day or overnight camp for 2013. The theme for this summer is *All Things New*. From day camps for children completing K- 2nd grades to overnight camps for children completing 2nd-5th grade, attending Tall Oaks Summer Camps is a great addition to summer. Check out the details at the camp website – www.talloaks.org.

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