



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.*

## Rev. Joe Walker and Dr. Meredith Holladay Named to Ministry Positions

The Personnel Committee is pleased to announce the hiring of Rev. Joe Walker and Dr. Meredith Holladay to Ministry Positions at Country Club Christian Church. Joe, who has served as Interim Minister of Congregational Care since December 2013, has been called to serve as a permanent member of the staff in a newly revised job description also called Minister of Congregational Care. Meredith has been named the Minister of Membership Development.



Joe Walker



Meredith Holladay

In considering both of these candidates, the Personnel Committee chose to reorganize the staff structure to take full advantage of Meredith and Joe's strengths and experience. Phil Love, chair of the search committee which recommended both Joe and Meredith, said, "I am thrilled with this news. I have the sense that God has been leading us in this process, and that's a good feeling."

As the **Minister of Congregational Care**, Joe will provide support and resources for members in times of pastoral need, will actively care for members who are facing health crises, will provide leadership to senior adult ministry programs, and will work to create a strong network of care for new concerns of the congregation as they arise.

Joe Walker is a Commissioned Minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and earned a Certificate in Pastoral Studies, University of Notre Dame. He previously served as transitional minister for Westwood Christian Church and for Ridgeview Christian Church. Joe has also served the Greater Kansas City Region as Minister for New Church Ministry, encouraging and supporting our church start-ups. He brings over 25 years of experience to his new role. Joe has been recognized for his work promoting ecumenical and interfaith dialogues and his leadership in peace and justice issues.

A Kansas City area native, Joe, and his wife of 36 years, Susan, make their home in Independence. Susan is on staff with Cerner's international pediatric health charity. They have one son and daughter-in-law and a granddaughter, Lucina.

"I am looking forward to exploring ways for even more of our members to be able to provide care within our congregation and in our community," Joe said.

As **Minister of Membership Development**, Meredith will develop a lay-caring ministry program empowering members to mutually care for and spiritually nurture one another. She will develop systems to reach out to members, empower members of the church to engage in membership development and develop a vital ministry with congregants ages 22-32.

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## Annual Congregational Meeting Is June 8

On Sun., June 8, annual congregational meetings will be held after each worship service to vote on next year's slate of officers, new board members, elders, deacons and trustees. Please be sure to attend worship that day so that you have an opportunity to vote!

The Nominating Committee has presented the following 2014 slate:

**Chair of the Congregational Board** – Mary McClure

**Immediate Past Board Chair** – Jared Rose

**Chair-elect of the Congregational Board** – Phil Love

**Secretary of the Board** – Amy Holmes

**Treasurer** – Phil Howes

**Congregational Board Members** – Amy Holmes, Cindy Irely, JJ Jones, Nancy Lear, Sally Nielsen, Bill Watson

**Chair of Personnel Committee** – Lee Brumitt

*Personnel Committee Members* – Brian Campbell, Kristin Patterson

**Endowment Trustees** – Barbara George, Lance Jessee, Mary Lehoczky, Amy Guthrey

**Nominating Committee** – Katie Cronin, John Cockle, Bart Finney, Jaclyn Hains, Marie Hunter, Jayson Parker, Jim Wells

**Elders** – Lecann Blundell, Hannah Fenley, Esther Giffin, Kathryn Holtze, Sally Nielsen, Dale Ramsey, Leann Ritter

**Deacons** – Daun Ardelean, Jane White Brown, Jacqueline Cyphers, Kristi Gibbs, Jeff Gibbs, Amy Guthrey, James Guthrey, Jaclyn Hains, Chris Hains, Chris Howard, Gabe Kranz, Amanda Kranz, Mary Landis, Patty McComas, Stan McManness, Erin Parkinson, Linda Rives, Courtney Sullivan, Garrett Sullivan

**Youth Elders** – Jackson Berry, Ashley Bough, Clayton Forsee, Parker Hoffman, Hailey Hunter, Charlie Jensen, MaKenna Lockhart, Zachary Ziegenhorn

**Youth Deacons** – Jack Bartlett, Sam Berry, Caroline Brumitt, Sam Brumitt, Ben Crocker, Alyssa Hess, Scott Holt, Margo Hunter, Lita Lockhart, Sophie Nearmyer, Cate Nearmyer, Lucy Patterson

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## Sermon Series: Real People, Real Problems, Real Help

In this series, Dr. Glen Miles will utilize the book of Psalms to help us with our everyday problems.

June 15 – *Loneliness*, Psalm 25: 16-22

June 22 – *Shame*, Psalm 31: 1-5, 14-20

June 29 – *Heartbroken*, Psalm 34: 1-8

July 13 – *Bitterness*, Psalm 55 (selections)

July 20 – *Anxiety*, Psalm 77

July 27 – *Sorrow*, Psalm 119: 25-32.

## Ministry Postions

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Meredith holds a Ph.D. in Religion, Politics, and Society from Baylor University and a Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary. She most recently served as Associate Pastor of Spiritual Formation at First Baptist Church in Lawrence, KS. She has served churches in Waco, TX; New York, NY, and Washington, D.C. Meredith has extensive experience as a preacher, teacher and writer.

“I believe the church must open its doors – both literally and otherwise – to the surrounding communities and world. Permanence and centrality of the church as an institution and as a building can no longer be taken for granted, therefore it is vital that we find ways to assert that faith still matters, that faith still makes a difference,” Meredith said.

## Additional Personnel News

In the interim period before Meredith begins as Minister of Membership Development, Allie Cobb, Director of Youth Ministries, will be assisting with the activities of the Church Growth Ministry Team on a part-time basis. Allie can be reached at [alliec@cccckc.org](mailto:alliec@cccckc.org).

Rachel Wymore is the church's new wedding coordinator. She will work part-time booking and managing the weddings and working with the Marriage Enrichment Ministry Team. All wedding inquiries should be directed to [weddings@cccckc.org](mailto:weddings@cccckc.org).



# Goliath Never Had a Chance

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



*While Glen is on vacation, we are reprinting his column from Feb. 14, 2014.*

Poor Goliath. When he challenged the Israelite army to send a warrior to do battle with him the great giant never had a chance. As soon as they saw the young shepherd boy armed with his sling and five smooth stones they should have fled immediately into the hills to regroup. David held all of the power and was in total control of the situation. Goliath was the underdog.

Are you surprised by this view of the story? I was too when I read Malcolm Gladwell's latest book, *David and Goliath*. Gladwell argues that Goliath never had a chance because David took advantage of the situation and turned everything into his favor. Goliath was heavily armored. He was tall and strong. His weapons were humongous. He looked fearsome. David, the young shepherd boy, volunteered to take on the mighty warrior. When Saul looked at the situation he could only see it through the eyes of the traditional style of one-on-one combat and he tried to arm David in the same way. David, combining quickness and speed with a powerful and accurate weapon, took down the mighty Philistine and turned the tables of war.

Gladwell writes, "What the Israelites saw, from high on the ridge, was an intimidating giant. In reality the very thing that gave the giant his size was also the source of his greatest weakness. There is an important lesson in that for battles with all kinds of giants. The powerful and the strong are not always what they seem."

Are there any gigantic battles in your life that are bringing you down, leaving you cowering in the corner with nothing but fear on your side? Are there issues in your life that seem huge and insurmountable? Are you discouraged by the way things have gone for you lately? Perhaps what you need is a new way of seeing the battle.

David took on Goliath with courage and faith but he had more than those two things on his side. He found a way to take on this challenge that no one else had envisioned. By learning to see through the problem to a new and never thought of solution he was able to leave behind the fear that others were surely feeling and defeat Goliath.

Paul, writing to a young pastor named Timothy, declares, "For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self discipline." That's not a promise for easy victories but it is a blueprint for taking on any and every challenge we face.

Grace and peace to you,

## Visitors Invited to Luncheon

Are you a visitor interested in learning more about Country Club Christian Church? We invite all guests and friends of the congregation to attend a luncheon on Sun., June 15, to learn more about us, meet our ministers and ask questions about the denomination and church. Lunch will be served in the Solarium (Rm. 309) from 12:15-1:30 p.m. RSVP to Paul Cutelli at paulc@cccckc.org. The next New Member Sunday is June 29.

## Worship with us!

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

**June 8**

Rev. Carla Aday preaching  
Spiritual Language  
*Acts 2:1-21*

**Sermon Series:  
Real People, Real Problems,  
Real Help**

**June 15**

Part 1 – Loneliness  
*Psalms 25:16-22*

**June 22**

Part 2 – Shame  
*Psalms 31:1-5; 14-20*

# Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

## Pathways to Learning: Do you Know Your Urban IQ?



**June 8** – A panel discussion on homelessness in Kansas City. The data on who is homeless in Kansas City may surprise you. Learn about the annual survey of Kansas City homeless, veterans and homelessness, and how our church members are serving at Sheffield Place in northeast Kansas City.

Panel: Vickie Riddle, Executive Director of the Homeless Services Coalition; Art Fillmore, St. Michaels Veterans Center; Kelly Welch, Executive Director of Sheffield Place in northeast Kansas City. 9:55-10:55 a.m., Social Hall.

Pathways to Learning is a series of elective offerings open to everyone focusing upon timely topics on the Bible, spirituality, current events, family life and technology. Visitors welcome.

## Green Team Presents Class

On Thurs., June 19, the Green Team will present **What your Backyard Tree Wants You to Know**. Chuck Conner, Missouri Department of Conservation Urban Forester, 6:30 p.m., Social Hall. Many landscape trees in Kansas City are suffering from the effects of drought and the threat of exotic tree pests. Join Chuck as he discusses ways to properly care for new and mature trees in Kansas City area landscapes. Free and open to the public. No registration required. Door prizes. For further information call 816-665-4456.



## Only A Few Spaces Available for 2014 Christian Community Camp

The 2014 camp at the YMCA of the Rockies near Estes Park, CO, will be Aug. 2-9. The group of 60-90 folks from ages 1 to 91 stays in a newly remodeled lodge and enjoys home-cooked meals provided by volunteer chefs from our church. Cost is \$1,550 for a private room; \$350 for a bunk room. Food and activity fee of \$80 per person. For more information, contact Rev. Carla Aday at carlaa@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917.

## Save the Date for the Ice Cream Social

**Sun., June 22, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the Social Hall.** Featuring complimentary hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken sandwiches, ice cream and toppings. We will celebrate all those who have served during this church year, and honor our outgoing chairpersons of the Elders and Congregational Board and welcome our incoming Chair of the Congregational Board and Chair of Elders.

## Visit 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.



## Enter, Rest, Pray

By Lara Schopp, Director of Communications



Summer is supposed to be the time of year when things slow down. Days are supposed to be filled with vacation plans, barbecues, and watching the sunset in the backyard with a cool drink in hand.

But for working parents, summer can sometimes be even more chaotic than the school year. We are fortunate that our daughter's school offers six weeks of free summer "camp" that is low on curriculum and high on fun. But that still leaves four weeks for which I've frantically been planning, scheduling, arranging and fretting. Basketball camp one week, arts camp another. A few days with a friend's family here, a few overnights with grandma there.

I recently sent my husband an email with the summer schedule. That evening I said, "Did you open that email with the calendar?"

"Yep," he said. "I opened it and then I immediately closed it." It was too overwhelming.

So while summer is a time during which lots of folks take an extended break from church, for me going to worship is kind of a respite. As I sat in the pew last Sunday listening to Carla preach, I realized it might have been the first time all week I'd taken a deep breath and let the spirit in. And I was reminded of a time almost 10 years ago when each Sunday I'd haul my sleep-deprived self and my squirming, often crying infant to church. I'd come in through the north doors where the sign says "Enter. Rest. Pray." I'd drop Caroline in the capable hands of a lovely childcare person and I'd collapse into the cool, quiet sanctuary for an hour that restored and reenergized me for the week ahead.

Back here in the summer of 2014, those of us on the church staff are excited about a summer of new possibilities in Children and Youth Ministries, we're looking forward to welcoming new staff members, we're planning for fall and looking at where God might be leading Country Club Christian Church in the future. And as usual, we are doing our best to make sure you have all the information you need to fully participate in the life of this church. Yes, summer is busy for the staff but even we have to take time for a little quiet.

If your life feels crazy too, maybe you want to join me on Sundays as I try to block out the noise, the busyness and the chaos of work, of plans and schedules, and come to worship for a few moments of quiet.

Enter. Rest. Pray.

*Lara*

## Please Return Your Pledge Card

Thank you to everyone who turned in a pledge card to our 2014 Stewardship Campaign. We are still collecting your 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 or visit [www.cccckc.org/give](http://www.cccckc.org/give) to make your pledge electronically. A team is making follow up calls to households whose cards we have not received. Thank you for your generous support of Country Club Christian Church.

## June Collection Connection

In June, we are collecting items for the Della Lamb Community Service's Adult English As Second Language Program. The program gives Della Dollars to students who actively participate in class using whatever English skills they have. At the end of the week, the Della Dollars can be redeemed for items that cannot be purchased with food stamps but that are needed in the home. Items needed include: powder detergent (small size), bar soap (two-bar packs), dish washing liquid, and liquid hand soap. Please place your donations in the bin in the Parlor. Della Lamb is one of the agencies in our PartNERship with the Northeast Kansas City community and focuses on empowering low-income clients to meet the challenges of education, employment and self-sufficiency.

## Vacation Bible School: Workshop of Wonders

July 28-31, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Our kids will experience the wonders of God at our Vacation Bible School, Workshop of Wonders: Imagine and Build With God. Your children will become Visioneers at the Workshop of Wonders as they explore how the ordinary becomes the extraordinary with God and experience the love of Jesus. All children age 2 through 5th grade are welcome! Dinner will be provided.

Session 1: Build with God!  
Session 2: Grow with God!  
Session 3: Work with God!  
Session 4: Walk with God!



Thurs., July 31 will be Family Night. As we gather for the final night of VBS, please join us with the entire family for a night of fun!

We are also looking for a great team of volunteers to assist in decorating, setting up crafts and helping to lead our youth during VBS. Please contact Lindsay Howes, Director of Children's Ministries, at [lindsayh@cccckc.org](mailto:lindsayh@cccckc.org) for more information.

## Upcoming Youth Events

### Youth Group

**Summer Schedule** - Youth Group will be held on Sundays at 5:30 p.m. this summer EXCEPT on the following dates:

- June 22 - Due to Middle School Mission trip
- July 13 - Due to High School Mission trip

### Family Night at Micah

Youth families are invited on June 9 to serve together at Independence Boulevard Christian Church's Micah Ministry. The next opportunity will be June 9. Meet at Independence Boulevard Christian Church at 5:00 p.m.

### Service Hours Opportunities

**VBS July 27-31** - Volunteer hours available for youth. Let Allie Cobb ([allicc@cccckc.org](mailto:allicc@cccckc.org)) 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.

#### 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.

## Middle School Youth Mission Trip

Country Club Christian Church's youth are gearing up for two mission trips this summer.

The middle school students are headed to Houston, TX June 22-26. We are partnering with the Center for Student Missions to engage in an urban ministry experience that will transform their lives. Houston possesses the third highest homeless population in the U.S. 250,000 Gulf Coast residents are one paycheck away from being out on the streets. In the greater Houston area, one child out of every five lives at or below the poverty level.

Please join us in praying for our students as they serve God's children in Houston.

Stay tuned for more information about our high school students as they head to Chicago next month.



## Holy Spirit Is Alive at Our Church

by Rev. Carla Aday, Senior Associate Minister



You've been noticed. I saw you filing the coffee carafes between services and replenishing the cream. I saw you crunching numbers on the finance committee on Tuesday and teaching the second graders about the miracles of Jesus on Sunday. And even when you thought no one was looking, I was aware that you were acting in secret: helping an elderly member write checks, taking a new widow out for coffee, sending a note of encouragement to a mom at the end of her patience. You, O Holy Spirit, continue to surprise and amaze me by the ways that you share God's love, life and hope through the people at Country Club Christian Church.

O Spirit, sometimes it seems like your energy is boundless. For you don't seem tired from cooking thousands of meals on Monday for the hungry along Independence Blvd. and so you show up again on Thursday to teach Bible Study and again on Saturday to weed the flower beds at the columbarium and dust the pews in the sanctuary. And you don't even limit your work to the actual church walls but instead show up in hospitals, nursing homes and battered women's shelters to sit and listen to another's story of pain.

Holy Spirit, sometimes people in our culture make light of the church as if it is just one more club or organization that needs a donation. But those folks must not be seeing what I'm seeing. For if they did they would know that the same miraculous spirit who enlivened Jesus' friends 2,000 years ago continues to sweep through the community called Country Club Christian Church with an empowering and life-changing presence.

So thank you, Holy Spirit, for every single person who has served at Country Club Christian Church this year – from July 1-June 30. Thank you for inspiring them all to knit, bake, teach, pray, paint, tutor, coach, cook, weed, greet, deliberate, and so much more. Without you, we would be nothing.

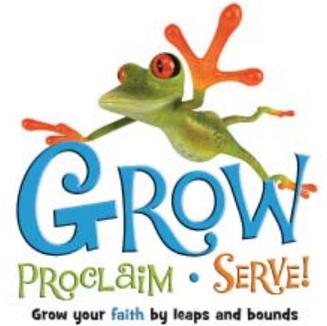
Amen.

*Carla*

## Children and Families New Sunday Morning Format

### Grow, Proclaim, Serve

We are starting an exciting series in the Children's Sunday School by introducing *Grow! Proclaim and Serve*. Through *Grow!* 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. Sunday School will start



off in a large group worship service and then the children will divide into small groups based on grade level to continue conversation and activities. We are very excited to begin this new format with the 1st-5th grade as well as the 3 to 6 year olds. Keep watching for more exciting information related to our Children's programming.

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## Diana Butler Bass to speak at Central Baptist Theological Seminary

Central Baptist Theological Seminary President Molly T. Marshall and Rev. Carla Aday will facilitate a conversation with Diana Butler Bass, author of *Christianity after Religion*, on Sat., June 7 from 4:00-5:30 p.m. The event will take place at the Baugh-Marshall Chapel on Central's campus, located at 6601 Monticello Road, Shawnee, KS. There is no cost for this event, but an RSVP to Robin Sandbothe will help with planning. Email [rsandbothe@cbts.edu](mailto:rsandbothe@cbts.edu) or call 913-667-5708.

## Virginia Reed Food Drive on June 15

On Sun., June 15, 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."

## PROGRAM STAFF

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

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