



# 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.*

## Your Outreach Dollars at Work

### Nearly \$300,000 Makes a Difference in 2012-2013 Your Outreach and Mission Dollars at Work

By Lance Jessee, Chair of Outreach Council

During the past fiscal year, thanks to your financial support, our congregation invested \$299,020.23 in outreach and mission projects here in Kansas City and around the world.

The Outreach Council funded over \$211,000 in grants and gifts to help organizations serving those in need. These projects include: support to the Disciples Ministry Fund in the amount of almost \$80,000 voted on by the congregational board, and other outreach grants in the amount of \$20,000.

Additionally, Endowment provided \$58,000 for outreach grants, and the congregation generously supported Christmas, Easter and special offerings with another \$53,000.

These funds provided support to local, regional and international needs. Local support went to Turning Point, Community Gardens, Kansas City Urban Youth Coalition, Grace United, Metropolitan Lutheran Ministries, Micah Ministries, Sheffield Place, CASA, and First Call. International support went to Global Ministries for The Samaritan Care Centre, The Goigoi Farm Project, and for Syrian Refugee Relief.



Easter Offering Recipient  
Sheffield Place

The regional support went to Culver-Stockton College and The Week of Compassion for Hurricane Sandy relief and the Moore, OK, tornado relief.

The Metro Mission Council funded Micah Ministries, Cross-lines Community Outreach, the Virginia Reed Food Drive, Hartman Elementary School and other projects, in the amount of \$21,860.67.

Four mission trips during 2012-2013 were supported by \$66,159.56 in donations. Those trips included Haiti in October 2012, two trips to Nicaragua in early 2013 (an adult trip and a high school trip), and Joplin, MO, in May 2013.

Additional endowment funds, food donations, item donations, designated gifts and many volunteer hours went to support these ministry areas.

If you would like to know more about our Outreach and Mission Ministries or actively participate in them, please contact the church office.

### Ice Cream Social Kicks Off Celebration of Service Week

Join us this Sunday, July 7, for 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, Foos' custard and toppings, and the ever-popular balloon artist.



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## New Sermon Series Begins July 21

# Overwhelmed: Finding God in the Midst of Life's Storms

Disease, divorce, downsizing, death. Life is filled with difficult storms. When the doctor says, "cancer" or the boss says, "you've been let go," it's easy to feel overwhelmed, to feel like you are absolutely out of control and on your own with nowhere else to go.

The writers of the book of Psalms know this feeling too. Sometimes their emotions were raw and cut to the bone. One wrote, "I sink in deep mire, where there is no foothold; I have come into deep waters, and the flood sweeps over me." He is overwhelmed by insults and taunts. His life is a mess. In the end though he turns to God. He finds that even in the storm, in the mire and the mud, God is there.

In this series we'll look at some of life's most difficult storms and listen carefully for the comforting voice of God in the midst of it all.

**July 21** – Discouraged, Psalm 61

**July 28** – Lost, Psalm 69

**Aug. 4** – Rev. Carla Aday preaching

**Aug. 11** – Waiting, Psalm 131

## Welcome Rev. Janet Weiblen



The Reverend Janet Weiblen joined our staff on July 1 to provide pastoral support on an interim basis as the search continues for a new Minister of Children, Youth and Families. Rev. Weiblen is a trained intentional interim with many years of pastoral leadership experience. She will participate in worship, hospital calls, weddings, funerals and other pastoral roles as needed on a part time basis. Her email is janetw@cccckc.org. Janet is presently the Chairperson of Reaching Out from Within, an organization that works with prison inmates. She has volunteered in prisons in various capacities for more than 20 years.

## Construction Is on Schedule

Construction on the church's exterior continues on schedule, with the first new and repaired finials are expected to arrive the week of July 8. The contract has been signed for the stained glass window project, which includes installing new frames and covers to the windows in the Sanctuary and the Combs Chapel. Organ repairs also continue. Starting soon, the organ will be out of commission for a short time as the technicians remove parts for repair in their shop.



## July Collection Connection: School Supply Drive

The Collection Connection this month will be collecting school supplies for the students at Garfield Elementary School. Garfield is located in the Northeast, just a few blocks from Independence Boulevard Christian Church. The families of many of the students don't have resources to provide school supplies for their children. You can help by donating any of the following items or funds to purchase the items:

- glue sticks
- 8 oz bottles of washable glue
- scissors
- large pink erasers
- No. 2 pencils
- crayons-24 count
- highlighters
- rulers with inches and metrics
- pocket folders
- loose leaf wide-ruled paper
- wide rule spiral notebooks
- composition notebooks (journals)
- boxes of colored pencils
- red checking pens
- blue or black ballpoint pens
- 3-ring binders

Take your donations to the parlor any Sunday this month. Send cash (or check) donations to the church office marked "Garfield School Supplies."



# Love from the Center

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



Paul, the apostle, wrote, "Let love be genuine." The Greek word translated here as "genuine" can be read literally as "un-hypocritical." Let love be un-hypocritical.

The popular translation of the Bible known as *The Message* translates this first verse to say: "Love from the center of who you are; don't fake it." Love from the center. Listen to the heart-beat of your soul. Have you had a tough time lately? Have you found yourself not behaving very kindly or lovingly toward your spouse, your

partner, your family, your neighbor? Well, a good time to begin loving from the center is today. Let that love be real, let it be un-hypocritical.

Have you seen the movie "Cowboys and Aliens"? It is the perfect summer time popcorn movie. It's like the westerns from my childhood except in this one the cowboys and Native Americans are fighting against aliens from space. The main character in the movie, played by Daniel Craig, is basically James Bond in chaps. However, he has forgotten his past. He has amnesia. He doesn't know who he is. When the aliens attack he helps to lead the townspeople in battle. In one scene, when the town's preacher is dying after heroically saving a young boy from an alien (I like it when the preacher is a hero!), he tells Daniel Craig to lead the way against the bad guys from space. Craig says, "But I don't know who I am." The preacher says, "It doesn't matter who you were. It only matters who you are!"

Have you had a difficult time letting love be genuine? Have you failed at authentic, real, from the center love? It matters more who you are, not who you were. You may say, "Oh, my family will never believe it. They will think it's short term or that I've gone cuckoo or something." Fine. Let 'em think that. If your love is genuine, un-hypocritical it will make its way to reality. It matters more who you are than who you were.

This is an open-ended invitation to let God's love become the new force in your life. It is a way of saying who you were does not control who you are.

Grace and peace to you,

## 2013 General Assembly – Teach Us to Pray

The 2013 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will be July 13-17 in Orlando, FL.



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

The theme of the assembly is "Lord Teach Us to Pray," which calls us to pray deeply for God's direction, strength, courage, and initiative in mission, is based on Luke 11:1-4.

Information and registration materials are available at [www.disciples.org/ga](http://www.disciples.org/ga). If you would like a free electronic copy of the General Assembly Program and Business Docket, go to [www.chalicepress.com](http://www.chalicepress.com).

## Worship with us!

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

**Sunday, July 7**

When the Government  
Goes to Church  
*2 Kings 5: 1-14*

**Sunday, July 14**

Let's Break the Rules  
Rev. Chuck Murphy preaching  
*Luke 10:25-37*

**Finding God in the Midst  
of Life's Storms**

**Sunday, July 21**

Part 1 – Discouraged  
*Psalm 61*

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# Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

## Summer Espresso Service

9:00-9:45 a.m. Sundays

Grab your coffee and join us for the Summer Espresso Service, continuing through Aug. 11. Have baseball tickets, yard work or a family barbecue on your Sunday schedule this summer? 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. The coffee cart will be in the Parlor from 8:30-10:30 a.m. through Aug. 11.



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## 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., and Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

## 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

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## Virginia Reed Food Drive on July 21

On Sun., July 21, 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."



# Impressive

by John Clemmer, Business Administrator



Impressive. The first time I came to visit Country Club Christian Church I was very impressed. I had parked my car on the Parkway and was walking toward the building. Gazing at the bell tower, the stained glass windows, and the entire building – it was quite a sight. As I entered I was equally awed by the foyer and the beautiful sanctuary.

Now you should know that I grew up in a Disciples of Christ church that had no pews for 10 years. It was a new church and there was no money for pews.

We used folding chairs. So Country Club Christian Church was quite a contrast to that.

As I have gotten to know the people and members of the church, the word impressive again pops into my mind. The friendliness, helpfulness and enthusiasm of the members are a real marvel. Numerous members of the congregation have helped me with answers and insight. I am not the only beneficiary of this. I see parishioners all the time involved with members of the staff enthusiastically contributing to the well-being of Country Club Christian Church.

Impressive. My first reaction of the church was right – but not completely. As impressive as the building is, what makes Country Club Christian Church impressive is the spirit and vitality of the people. That is something we can all be grateful for.

\* \* \*

Back to bricks and mortar. I am glad to report the renovations to the church are continuing on schedule. The first new and repaired finials should be arriving next week. So you will likely see more cranes and activity as those are hoisted to the roof of the church.

The contract has been signed for the stained glass window project. There will be new frames and covers installed in the Sanctuary and the Combs Chapel. The windows will be absolutely stunning when the work is finished. The organ repairs also continue and the organ will not be used for a short time as the technicians remove parts for repair in their shop.

Impressive. Yes the building we have is special and the renovations will make it even more so. But what is really special are the members of Country Club Christian Church. Your generosity and support make this all possible. Thank you. And may the spirit and vision of Country Club be a light to all – that all may see the wisdom and strength of our Savior, who makes it all possible.

## Save the Date for Festival Sunday

Festival Sunday, the day we kick off a new church year of spiritual growth opportunities, is Sun., Aug. 18. Children and youth will advance to the next Sunday School grade level. Watch for more information.

## 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](mailto:chuckm@cccckc.org) for more information.



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# 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.

**July 7 – No Youth Group.** Chi Rho youth on mission trip.

**July 14 – Fun and Games Night.**

**July 21 – No Youth Group.** CYF youth on mission trip.

**July 28 – Family BBQ.** Come to the church for games and food. The whole family is invited as we say "See ya' later" to Justin.

## Sign Up to Provide a Meal for the Youth

Starting on Sun., Aug. 18, we will provide a meal at the beginning of Youth Group/Club Kids on Sunday evenings. We need people to sign up for the dates below. Your responsibility will be to have a meal in the Social Hall for 20-30 people. It's a great way to serve and get to know some of the young people in the congregation. Please contact Justin at [justinz@cccckc.org](mailto:justinz@cccckc.org) ASAP if you are willing/able to help.

Available Dates: Sept. 8 and Sept. 29

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

## 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.



## Follow Us on Facebook

Are you a fan of Country Club Christian Church on Facebook? The church's Facebook page includes photos, information and an option for you to leave messages. You can sign up to be a follower if you have a Facebook account. If you don't have an account, you can create a free one. The church already has more than 500 people following us on Facebook. Join the fun. Just go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com).





## An Unusual Life

by Carla Aday, Senior Associate Minister



This spring I joined a club that I never wanted to be a member of but which one out of eight women are. I was diagnosed with breast cancer.

Many of you know first-hand how haunting the waiting for test results can be and how the days drag on as you wait longer than you anticipated waiting. You watch the phone but it doesn't ring. (I carried my phone around so much I even dropped it down the toilet so that it stopped working.) But waiting gave me time, not only to worry but also to assess

... What am I enjoying about my life? What part of it matters? What demands to be changed? It's like watching a movie of your own life and making a snap decision about whether or not this movie deserves 4 stars or needs some editing or even a re-filming of an entire scene. And then comes the "c" word that no one wants to hear. It conjures up all kinds of associations – of those we have loved and lost to cancer and of the sometimes brutal physical journey that comes with treatments. It is enough to keep you up all night.

In my case, I was extremely lucky. For after an outpatient surgery to remove the small tumor, all my test results came back clear. Cancer gone! I will not need chemotherapy. Hooray! I celebrated these good things as I rode a bicycle 100 miles across the gorgeous southern countryside of France last week. Now I will undergo six weeks of daily radiation which should not come with any side effects or disruptions to my daily life. And so I am ready to get back to life as usual.

And yet, I'm not. Life as usual is not what any of us are called to live. Usual is not good enough. Usual is not why we are here. Usual life is for those who have forgotten that God created us "a little lower than the angels." (Psalm 8:5).

My brush with cancer awakened me again to the unusual beauty of this life I am living. This community of faith called Country Club Christian Church holds a key place in my heart. Not only is it a joyful place to work, but the people here daily exhibit the profound truth of the gospel by lavishing God's love on each other and on "the least of these." I feel blessed to share the path of life with you – to not only minister to you but to receive the ministry you offer. It is holy. And I am grateful to God and to you for the privilege of growing, learning, changing, and sharing together in what is a most unusual life – life in God.

*Carla*

## Children and Families Fountains of Faith Sunday School

In July, we will study the "Keepers of Creation," beginning with a discussion of everything God created and gradually working into taking care of the planet. We will be doing sidewalk art, clay creations and participating in an interactive life web.

The weekly themes are:

July 7 – And It Was Good, Part I

July 14 – And It Was Good, Part II

July 21 – Our Daily Bread

July 28 – Whaddayamean?

Join us from 9:55-10:55 a.m. in the Children's wing.

## 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](http://www.cccckc.org/give) to make your pledge electronically. Follow-up calls to households that have not yet turned in pledge cards will be completed soon. Thank you for your generous support of Country Club Christian Church.

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## PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. R. Glen Miles Senior Minister	Mr. John D. Clemmer Business Administrator
Rev. Carla Aday Senior Associate Minister	Dr. Brian Mathias Associate Organist
Rev. David Diebold Minister of Music	Ms. Lisa McCleish Director of Early Childhood Programs
Rev. Chuck Murphy Minister of Congregational Care	Mr. Michael Patch Director of Children's and Youth Choirs
Rev. Janet Weiblen Interim Pastoral Associate	Ms. Lara Schopp Director of Communications
Rev. Justin Zeigler Minister to Youth	Ms. Lauren Weinhold Director of Church Growth

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## Memorials

### Organ Restoration Fund

#### Jay Buehler

Roger & Joan James

### Food Ministry

#### Louis Kurz

Donna Johnson  
Mike & Judy Schaefer  
Marie Tompkins  
Pat Martin  
John & Erma Hess  
Harvey & Dorothy Ray  
Paula Lane  
Max & Sue Deweese  
Martha Lieser  
Tri Cs class  
Jo Strickler  
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### Permanent Missionary Endowment Fund

#### Louis Kurz

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### Capital Campaign

#### Louis Kurz

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### Congregational Care

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