



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.

McClure and Johannsen to Lead Church

Mary McClure will serve as Chair of the Congregational Board for 2014-2015. Mary has been a member of Country Club Christian Church for more than 20 years.



Mary McClure

Mary grew up on a farm outside Sedalia, MO, and moved to Kansas City in 1981. She lives in Brookside where she enjoys hosting get-togethers for her extended family in the Kansas City area. During her 20-year career with Hallmark Cards, she led business units as a Vice President and General Manager.

Mary led the Northeast PartNership until handing it off to Nancy Lear this year. She serves on the Pathways Committee and the Green Team and enjoys working with the Green Team gardeners on Monday nights. Mary planted the south entrance with edible vegetables the last few seasons to encourage people to Plant a Row for the Hungry.

“This is an exciting time at our church as we complete our multi-year construction project and welcome new staff who are bringing energy and enthusiasm for the future. Over the next year, the board will focus on building on this excitement to increase the number of active members and ensure our future is as strong as our renewed church building,” Mary said.

Carty Johannsen will chair the Elders in 2014-2015. Carty has been a member of Country Club Christian Church since August 1974.



Carty Johannsen

Carty and his wife, Peggy, moved to Kansas City in 1972. Carty has been a lawyer in private practice in the area since.

Carty and Peggy became involved in the church as Sunday School teachers while their children were growing.

In 2001, Carty became interested in mission trips and the work available on those trips. He has participated in numerous trips to Nicaragua, South Africa and others locations. During this time, Ken Hubbell convinced him to become involved in the mission trip council and then later the outreach council, both of which he said he has really enjoyed. A few years ago, under the tutelage of Dr. Chuck Rolen, Interim Minister of Congregational Care, Carty became a Stephen Minister.

“With Joe Walker and Meredith Holliday, two dynamic new ministers at Country Club Christian Church, and working closely with Glen, Carla and the others, I am hopeful that the Elders will give all possible aid and assistance to our ministers as they implement their plans for the future of Country Club Christian Church so that it will be strengthened and vibrant for another 100-plus years,” Carty said.



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!

Volunteers Needed

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 for more information.

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., July 20, 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.

Baby Dedication



John Joseph Koch with parents, Joe and Erin Koch, and sister, Ellen.

New Members



David and Colleen Milroy with their children, Jack and Colin.



What Does God Expect?

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



There have been times in my life when I wanted to know exactly what God wanted me to do, where to go, which job to take, even silly little things like “should I buy this TV or the other one?” Those decisions would be a lot easier if God would just tell me, in a big booming voice, what to do: “GLEN. BUY THE SONY. IT IS THE BEST.”

I complained like this to one of my professors in seminary, Fred Norris. Norris is brilliant. He holds a Ph.D. from Yale. He’s published lots of books, difficult books, the type of books that only people with Ph.D.’s from Yale can understand. But Fred is also great fun at a party. He’s got a great sense of humor. Follows sports. Reads fun stuff, too.

One day, toward the end of my final semester, I was in his office seeking advice. I had a couple of job offers. Good churches, great ministries, fine places to live. I said, “How do I know what God wants me to do?” Norris laughed (he had this really LOUD laugh), and asked, “Mr. Miles, have you actually read the Bible while you have been in seminary? Are you really in my office asking: ‘What does God want you to do?’ ” He went on: “Let’s get real clear here: God wants you to love your neighbor as yourself. According to Jesus you are to love God with all your heart, soul and mind. Jesus also said that God expects us to feed the hungry, visit the imprisoned, clothe the naked. Take either job, I don’t care. Go work for Quik Trip selling sodas and candy bars and gasoline but whatever you do don’t forget to love God, to love your neighbor and to care for the least of these.”

Dr. Norris was right. He wasn’t being overly simplistic. He wasn’t avoiding my concerns but he wanted me to think beyond my own little world. He wanted me to look past my worries and follow God’s simple and clear command to love.

When we ask, “what does God expect,” hidden in that question is the desire to see God, to hear God’s voice, to find God and know, really know, that God is alive and present in our lives. Because of that yearning, because of that desire, the authors of the Bible have left us glimpses and hints and clear indicators of where God is. John wrote, “No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and God’s love is made complete in us.” Jesus said, “Whatever you did for the least of these...you did for me.”

What does God expect? Well, not much really: Love God. Love neighbor. Care for the least of these. When you do, you may even see God.

Grace and peace to you,

Glen

Sermon Series: Real People, Real Problems, Real Help

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

July 6 – *Longing*, Psalm 86, Rev. Carla Aday preaching

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

July 20 – *Anxiety*, Psalm 77

July 27 – *Sorrow*, Psalm 119: 25-32.

Worship with us!

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

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

July 6

Part 4 – *Longing*
Psalm 86

Rev. Carla Aday preaching

July 13

Part 5 – *Bitterness*
Psalm 55 (selections)

July 20

Part 6 – *Anxiety*
Psalm 77

July 27

Part 7 – *Sorrow*
Psalm 119: 25-32

Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

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 to make your pledge electronically. Thank you for your generous support of Country Club Christian Church.



Flower Vases Needed

The flower ministry needs vases for flowers. If you have a vase you can donate, please leave it in the Social Hall kitchen or at the reception desk.

Our flower ministry re-imagines the decorations from Sunday worship and other events and then delivers smaller arrangements to our sick and shut-ins and those who just need a little beauty in their day. Thanks to Gloria Findley-Grogger, Esther Giffin, Maureen McGinty, and Greg Garrison (not pictured) for their creativity and dedication.



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 John Clemmer at 816-333-4917 or johnc@cccckc.org for more information.



Visit The Well

The Well, our book and gift store, is on the ground floor of the church. Items from the recent Nicaragua mission trip and devotional books are available. 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.

Green Team Class

Save the date! On Thurs., Oct. 16, the Green Team will present "The Land Institute – Internationally Famous and Locally Obscure" at 6:30 p.m. The Land Institute is working to reverse the antagonism between agriculture and nature. Using nature as the standard, Land Institute scientists are developing perennial mixtures that can produce food in harmony with the wild. Healthy, natural prairie ecosystems provide the information to direct our paths – information we in large part disregarded when we chose the agriculture of annual grains some 10,000 years ago. Free and open to the public. No registration required. Door prizes. For further information call 816-665-4456.





Commitment to a Vision

By Lara Schopp, Director of Communications



I imagined we'd be seeing yet another European-looking church, beautiful but unremarkable. But after a short walk we turned a corner and suddenly there it towered before us, the most awe-inspiring man-made structure I've ever seen. To say one's first glimpse of Sagrada Familia is breathtaking is to understate it by significant measure.

Construction on Sagrada Familia, a Roman Catholic basilica in Barcelona, Spain, commenced in 1882.

One year later, famed Catalan architect Antoni Gaudí took over, injecting it with his distinctive style

and expansive vision. Today, 132 years after ground first broke, the basilica is still under construction. That's right: cranes and workers in hard hats surround the massive structure daily, with completion not expected until 2026. One local we spoke to doubted it would ever be finished.

The sheer size and complexity of the place is extraordinary, with mosaic tiled details, haunting sculpture, and intricate carvings casing its exterior like skin worn and aged in some places; gleaming and new in others. But if I had been thunderstruck by the exterior, the interior nearly brought me to my knees. Rarely am I speechless, but as my friend quietly commented on a stained glass detail here or a stone structure there, I merely nodded. The cacophony of construction mingling with hushed prayers and dulcet organ tones.

Later, I messaged Glen and said it was one of the few times in my life I've truly felt the presence of the Spirit. I also joked that 138 years of construction makes the couple of years we've spent watching the restoration work here at Country Club Christian Church seem like nothing.

All joking aside, I am stunned by the Barcelona community's longstanding commitment to completing the project to Gaudí's specifications. Here in the U.S., I suspect we'd have long ago given up. So while I have been anxious to have the cranes out of the front yard at 6101 Ward Parkway, I've been looking at our construction a little differently these days. I am grateful for our nearly 100-year-old building, its gothic architecture, its decorative detailing. As Sagrada Familia stands for many decades of commitment to a vision, so does Country Club Christian Church. I hope you will join us on Sun., Oct. 5, as we rededicate this beautiful old structure, and offer prayers for 100 more years of standing as a beacon in a world that needs light.

Lara

July Collection Connection

In July, we are collecting disposable diapers for Sheffield Place and school uniforms for Hartman Elementary School students.

Sheffield Place is a non-profit organization serving homeless mothers with children ages 0-12 years. Since safety-net programs such as SNAP (food stamps) and WIC (Women, Infants and Children) do not cover the purchase of diapers, mothers at Sheffield Place struggle to have enough diapers to meet their babies' needs. The greatest need is for sizes 4-6 and pull-ups.

For Hartman boys and girls, we are collecting new or gently used khaki or navy pants, and navy shirts in sizes 6, 8 and 10.

Please place your donations in the bin in the Parlor.

Upcoming Youth Events

Youth Group

Sun., July 6 – On your mark, get set, bake! Dust off your aprons and start your ovens. We will be baking 35 dozen cookies to be enjoyed during fellowship on the following Sunday. 5:30-7:30 p.m., Social Hall.

Sun., July 13 – No Youth Group. High school mission trip.

Sun., July 27 – Game Night, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Stop by the Social Hall for fun games like Everybody's It, Apples to Apples, and yes, there will be Gotcha.

Sun., Aug. 10 – Water Fun, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Chapel lawn. Are you ready to beat the end of the summer heat? Do you want to get in some summer fun before school starts? Then come on over! Please wear something you don't mind getting a little wet in.

Sun., Aug. 24 – Sundae Sunday, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Will you be a 6th grader for the 2014-15 academic year? Then welcome to Youth Ministries! We can't wait to get to know you so stop by the Social Hall for an ice cream bar.

Family Night at Micah

Youth families are invited to serve together at Independence Boulevard Christian Church's Micah Ministry on Mon., July 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 Allie Cobb (alliec@cccckc.org) know if you'd like to help.

Middle School Youth Mission Team in Houston



Seven middle school youth traveled to Houston June 22-27 where they partnered with the Center for Student Missions to engage in an urban ministry experience. Members of the team were (left to right) Scott Holt, Zoey Jensen, Lauren Reddin, Taylor Corn, Ben Crocker, Mia Peters, Sam Berry. Allie Cobb, Director of Youth Ministries, and Kathy McDandel accompanied the youth.



Scott Holt and Ben Crocker (above) and Lauren Reddin, Mia Peters and Zoey Jensen (below) helped at Medical Bridges.





Ushering in Change

by Rev. Monica Lewis, Minister to Children, Youth and Families



A couple of weeks ago, I went to Target and got a cute new notebook/clipboard/folder thing. It's hot pink with gold polka dots. I'm kind of obsessed with the gold polka dots. I thought if I had a cute way to stay organized, I'd be more likely to get more accomplished. (I've already used half of the tablet of paper that came with it just making lists.) I've got a huge white board in my office with words and phrases to prompt me about new processes, dreams and visions. My desk is full of notes and pieces of paper (most are also scribbled on by the adorable 2-year-old who hangs out in my office).

I've got desk drawers and bookshelves and filing cabinets that are filled with notes and ideas from the staff who have worked in children's and youth ministry over the past decade.

Sometimes, it can feel a little overwhelming. I know your life is no different.

It's hard work to lead change. Just ask one of our Children and Youth Ministry Renovation Team members! There's a lot to create. There's a lot to tweak. It's often exhausting. It's often riddled with push-back.

But there are the moments that show us it's all worth it. This past Sunday, Zoey Jensen and Lauren Reddin talked about their experiences on the middle school mission trip to Houston. One thing Lauren wanted the congregation to know is that she wants more students to come to youth group and mission trips because they are so fun.

That's why we are ushering in change.

I got a text message from Tina McGuire a couple weeks ago saying that her daughter, Lauren, likes our new Sunday morning format for children. She finished the text with this: "...and more important to me, she told me the story of Peter in jail. Yay!"

That's why we are ushering in change.

Last week, I visited with Becca Puett and her brand new daughter, Gracelynn. I sat there with them, thinking about Gracelynn coming to our nursery and learning about Jesus from the new curriculum we are going to launch for infants.

That's why we are ushering in change.

On one of my days off last week, Allie Cobb, our Director of Youth Ministries, sent me a picture of our children and youth staff sitting around a table, planning our ministries for next year. They were laughing...having a good time...enjoying this work we get to do.

I remembered in that moment, it's God who's ushering in the change—we're just trying our best to listen.

Monica

Children and Families Sunday Morning Format

Grow, Proclaim, Serve

Through *Grow! Proclaim and Serve* 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 starts off in a group worship service and then the children divide into small groups based on grade level to continue

conversation and activities. We are very excited about this format for the 1st-5th graders and the 3 to 6 year olds.



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PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. R. Glen Miles Senior Minister	Ms. Allie Cobb Director of Youth Ministries
Rev. Carla Aday Senior Associate Minister	Ms. Lindsay Howes Director of Children's Ministries
Rev. David Diebold Minister of Music	Dr. Brian Mathias Associate Organist
Rev. Monica Lewis Minister to Children, Youth and Families	Ms. Lisa McCleish Director of Early Childhood Programs
Rev. Joe Walker Minister of Congregational Care	Mr. Michael Patch Director of Children's and Youth Choirs
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Norma Tilton
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