



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.

Join Us on Festival Sunday — August 18!

We will celebrate Festival Sunday, the beginning of a new year of spiritual growth opportunities for children, youth and adults, on Sun., Aug. 18.

Picnic Lunch Served from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m

- Picnic lunch served. (\$8 per person, maximum \$30 per family. Guests and visitors complimentary.)
- Hamburgers and hot dogs served by Two Guys and a Grill from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- Bounce house, games and prizes, food and live music!

Worship at 9:00, 10:00 or 11:00 a.m.

- Dr. R. Glen Miles will preach the sermon *God's Will is for Life*.
- 3rd grade Bible presentations at the 11:00 a.m. service.
- Pick up a Fall 2013 Ministries and Events Guide.
- Children and youth will advance to the next Sunday School grade level.

Reservations appreciated. Sign up in the Parlor on Aug. 4 and 11. Or call 816-333-4917 or email marymargareth@cccck.org. Walk-ins welcome!

Volunteers are needed to help out that morning. Contact Marcia Berry at (marciaberr@gmail.com) or Stacey Lukas (sllukas@aol.com) if you'd like to join the volunteer team.

VBS Brought Children to a Seaside town by the Sea of Galilee

A crowd of children, youth and adults made a seaside town along the Sea of Galilee come alive with foods, arts and crafts, music and playful recreation July 29-Aug. 2. Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped make VBS a great experience for the children.



August Collection Connection: Elementary School Uniforms

During August, we are collecting new and used school uniforms for the children at Hartman Elementary School. Suggested places to purchase the uniforms are JCPenney, Sears, Dollar General, Target, Old Navy, or you may donate cash. We need the following items for kindergarten through 6th grade girls and boys in sizes 5 to 16:

- Navy or white polo shirts – short or long sleeve
- Khaki or navy pants, skirts, or jumpers
- Short white socks

Please bring your donation to the parlor or send a check to the office marked “school uniforms.”

Country Club Christian Church is beginning its fourth school year partnering with Hartman School in the Kansas City, Missouri School District. Located at 81st Street and Oak, our members volunteer weekly in the building to assist teachers and tutor individual students. In addition, we have other members who prepare weekend Back Snacks for 25 hungry children and deliver them weekly to the school. The majority of students at Hartman receive free or reduced price lunches and many come to school without uniforms because their parents cannot afford to buy them.

Espresso Service Continues into Fall

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

The Summer Espresso Service has been so much fun over the last couple months, we’re extending this service format into the fall. Dave, the coffee guy, is away on vacation this Sunday, but he rejoins us on Aug. 11 through the end of August, and we hope he will continue to make periodic visits this fall. This Sunday, stick around after worship and join Carla and the other clergy in the Parlor for a pastry and fellowship.



Hayley Holt Named Interim Youth Director

Please welcome Hayley Holt who began serving as Interim Youth Director on



Aug. 1. Hayley will work with the middle school – Chi Rho – and the high school – CYF – youth groups each Sunday evening and with the Youth

Sunday School classes. You may already know her because she grew up in this congregation and has been active here as a young adult. She worked at the church in the summer of 2005 as an intern. Most recently Hayley worked as the Arts Integration Teacher at Academy for Integrated Arts and prior to that served with Teach For America in Charlotte, NC. You may email her at hayleyh@cccckc.org.



Life Under Pressure

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



When our lives are under pressure it can feel like we have been abandoned by God. St. John of the Cross calls this the “dark night of the soul.”

I have been asked many times by parishioners, by neighbors, even by strangers on airplanes: How can I avoid this dark night? It is not always worded that way. Most folks do not quote St. John of the Cross, but most of us experience times of testing, times of trial, times of pressure.

When life gets hard, temptation may come along with a siren call inviting us to forget the tough path and just give in to whatever will make our lives easier. If you’ve experienced this you know that can lead to disastrous choices.

A great source of help is the letter of James in the New Testament. He is writing to a collection of imperfect people inside the church. These are people just like us. Oh sure, the world has changed in a thousand different ways but people are still people. James is writing on things that need to be dealt with by these folks and I dare say us, too.

Right at the beginning we get some practical advice, “Consider it a gift friends, when tests and challenges come at you...under pressure your faith-life is forced open and shows its true colors.”

How do you respond to a challenge? Do you see the challenge as an opportunity to experience something new or as a chance to fail? When challenges to your faith come along do they inspire or infuriate?

Life under pressure produces a true picture of the kind of faith we have in the first place. James sees these moments as great opportunities for us to grow. If our faith is weak, the pressure that comes creates the possibility for renewed and strengthened faith.

“Consider it a gift,” writes James. Is there a tough problem before you right now? Don’t avoid it. Don’t run away from it. Take it on, move forward in faith and let God’s grace guide you as do. I won’t promise that it’s easy but I believe that God will bless you in the effort.

Grace and peace to you,

New Member Sunday on August 11

Are you interested in joining the Country Club Christian Church family? The next New Member Sunday is Aug. 11. Contact Lauren Weinhold at 816-333-4917 or laurenw@cccckc.org for more information.

Worship with us!

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

Sermon Series:
Overwhelmed: Finding God in the Midst of Life’s Storms

Sunday, Aug. 4
Part 3: Bright Abyss
Rev. Carla Aday preaching
Psalm 42

Sunday, Aug. 11
Part 4: Waiting
Psalm 131

Festival Sunday
Aug. 18
God’s Will is for Life

Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

Final Summer Assembly This Sunday

Sun., Aug. 4 – Making Covenants

Paul Diehl, Regional Minister of the Greater Kansas City Region, will talk about “Making Covenants” as the final installment of the Summer Sunday School Assemblies. Gather in the Social Hall from 9:55-10:55 a.m. Rev. Diehl will present a 15-20 minute lesson and then the Assembly will divide into smaller groups to discuss the topic that has been presented. The theme is “Disciples of Christ.”

Faithbook Begins September 10

A new year of Faithbook begins in September. Explore how the Bible and friendship deepen the spiritual journey as we listen to a brief Bible presentation and then share reflections in guided small groups. For women ages 25-65. The group meets Tuesday evening OR Wednesday morning. Pick the time frame that fits your schedule. Tuesdays, 7:00-8:00 p.m., beginning Sept. 10, or Wednesdays, 9:00-10:00 a.m., Sept. 11. Sign up with Mary Margaret House at 816-333-4917 or marymargareth@cccckc.org.

Organ Repair Underway



The sanctuary organ has been removed completely as it undergoes restoration. In the foreground is the empty organ pit in front of the choir loft, where you can usually find Rev. David Diebold or Dr. Brian Mathias on Sunday mornings. Until the organ work is completed in late fall, we are using the antiphonal organ located in the balcony, and the piano.

Virginia Reed Food Drive on August 18

On Sun., Aug. 18, 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.”

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.





Falling in Love

by Lauren Weinhold, Director of Church Growth



I was scared to death to tell my mom that I'd fallen in love. I'd fallen in love with this church, had even joined the church and had gotten involved in several classes and activities. Telling her I'd joined a church that was not a part of the denomination I grew up in would surely break her heart. I was convinced it would be the equivalent of bringing home a guy she wouldn't approve of. I chose for months to omit any talk of church from our weekly Sunday evening phone chats, that is, until she said that she planned to come to Kansas City for Easter. Feeling forced

to break down and admit that I'd fallen in love with a church, I timidly explained all the things that drew me to this faith community and I offered up a condensed history of our denomination.

We arrived for our first Easter Sunday service with my mom and sister by our side. The service was beyond wonderful: beautiful music, an inspiring sermon, the sweet smell of lilies, friendly familiar faces at every turn. As we exited the church and made our way to the car, an awkward cloud of silence hovered over us. I finally mustered up the courage to ask, "Well?" expecting to be met with a litany of all the things the church wasn't. My mom's response still moves me, almost 11 years later. "Oh, Laur, I see why you love this church. It's perfect for you. I couldn't be happier that you've found such a loving church home."

As I prepare for my mom and sister's visit this coming weekend (and yes, they'll be here on Sunday), I'm reminded of my mother's expression of love over a decade ago. Turns out, my mom wasn't the one with the bias. It was all me. I hadn't given my mom enough credit. I let fear cloud my perspective. I loved this faith community (and still do) but allowed my fear to get in the way of expressing it.

Why do you love this church? Is it the sermons? Is it the people? Is it the music? Is it the small group or class you participate in? Whatever it is, please don't let fear hover over you like it did me. As we prepare for our annual Festival Sunday celebrations on Aug. 18, this is the perfect time to leave fear behind and share your love of this church with a community and world that desperately need to know there's a place where LOVE is central to who we are and what we believe.

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.



Annual Elder and Deacon Seminar

If you are an Elder or a Deacon, please plan to attend the annual Elder and Deacon Seminar on Sat., Aug. 24, from 8:30 a.m.-noon in the Social Hall. Please contact Mary Margaret at 816-333-4917 or marymargareth@cccckc.org to RSVP.

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.

Aug. 25 – Hunger Games II and BBQ. All youth and their families are invited to play Hunger Games and have some BBQ. 5:30-7:30 p.m., Social Hall.

Rev. Justin Zeigler Presented Memory Quilt



The congregation said goodbye to Rev. Justin Zeigler on Sun., July 28, with a reception in the Parlor. Shelle Jensen (not pictured) and Lauren Weinhold (right) presented him with a handmade quilt featuring t-shirts from church events and other Kansas City memories.

Infant Dedication



Addison Marie White, with parents Thomas and Leslie White



An Unforgettable Moment

by Rev. Chuck Murphy, Minister of Congregational Care



It was the first Sunday of the football season. And, it was Joe Montana's first game as a Kansas City Chief. As a long-time '49ers fan, I couldn't wait to see the game.

Then, a moment of crisis came. For the first time, I was assigned by the church to serve shut-in communion. In my world, the emotions came bursting forth: "Why, God? Why?" I did everything I could to find a way to get out of serving. No substitute was willing to take my place. The elder I was to serve with was a family friend. Besides my guilt issues,

every sign said it was my day to serve.

The first person we served had dementia, and not just the forgetful moments kind. She appeared to be unaware of our presence. She just walked around the room bobbing and weaving. I confess that my first thoughts were, "Why are we here? She doesn't understand. I could be watching the game!"

The elder, unlike me, was gentle and patient, as if unmoved by her behavior. The elder began the service, and I, the angry deacon, followed reluctantly along. Words of the service were read and scripture was cited. No change in her, just the continual bobbing along. Then, we reached the part of the service where we recited in unison The Lord's Prayer. "Our Father, who art in heaven..." Then, a miracle happened. She stopped her bobbing, sat down next to me, bowed her head and said with us word for word the rest of the prayer.

There are tears in my eyes every time I tell this story. I think the miracle that happened that day was in me. My beloved grandmother had Alzheimer's then and I realize my discomfort that day had everything to do with watching her decline with the disease and my guilt for not visiting her. That first communion visit, the first person we served changed something inside of me. Later, I had memorable visits with my grandmother filled with sacred moments I will always treasure.

I have no idea the score of Joe Montana's first game with the Chiefs or how he did. But that first communion visit will forever stay with me. I'm convinced it played a big part in why I decided to become a pastoral care minister.

It's my hope and prayer that every person who serves shut-in communion in this church has a similar experience in their visits, however grace chooses to speak. To serve, to be present with those in need, will create an unforgettable moment.

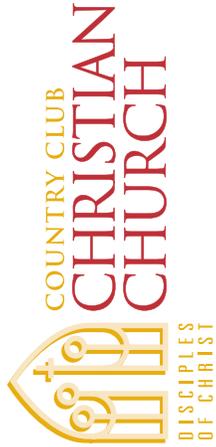
Chuck

Preschool Bake Sale



Charlotte Dakon and Tully McCoy helped at the preschool bake sale on July 25. The students raised \$95.61 for the Great Plains SPCA. The students helped make the sweets and made the decision as a class to donate the proceeds to help animals.

Non-Profit Organization
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Return Service Requested

Our Church Family

Congratulations

CHASE WATKINS and CAPRICE VIVEROS were married in the Sanctuary on July 20. Dr. Glen Miles officiated.

PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. R. Glen Miles Senior Minister	Ms. Hayley Holt, Interim Youth Director
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
Mr. John D. Clemmer Business Administrator	Ms. Lauren Weinhold Director of Church Growth

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