



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.

Church Branding Project Seeks Your Input

The Congregational Board is gathering your comments and ideas about the mission, vision and identity of Country Club Christian Church. You can participate by filling out a Branding Project worksheet, available in the Parlor or online at cccckc.org.

The worksheet reviews key messages about what makes our church distinctive, reviews who we are as a church and who we want to reach, and what we want our church brand to reflect to the community. These messages were gathered from input at the Apr. 27 Town Hall meeting.

You are asked for suggestions for new ways to use our current name through a slogan or a “nickname” OR suggestions for a new church name.

To date, a committee has developed objectives for this project and conducted initial research and input was gathered from the congregation at the Town Hall meeting. From that input, the committee developed key messages and criteria for any potential new name, which were adopted in July by the Congregational Board. This phase of the project will continue with market research and strategy development, as well as a second Town Hall meeting to review options.

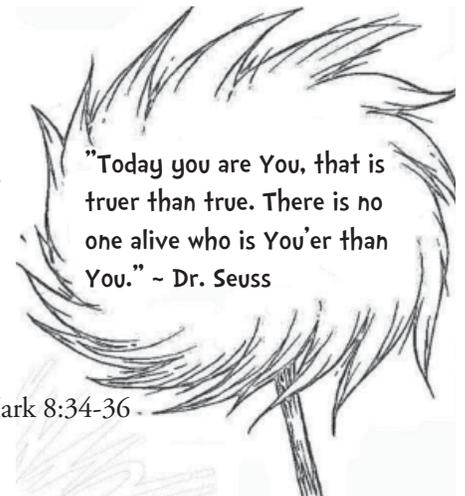
Please fill out a worksheet in the church office or the online form at www.cccckc.org and return it to the church office by Sept. 15.

Sermon Series:

Soul Searching: Finding the You God Created You to Be

This series will explore the ancient biblical idea of the soul. You may be surprised to discover that both the Hebrew and Christian views are very different from the popular and contemporary ones. You’ll enjoy discovering the Bible’s understanding and how it can help us be the ones God calls us to be. Sept. 7-28.

- Sept. 7 – Is it Well with Your Soul? Deuteronomy 6:4-9, Mark 8:34-36
- Sept. 14 – Lost Souls, Matthew 19:16-22
- Sept. 21 – Your Original Soul, Genesis 1:26-31a
- Sept. 28 – The Future of Your Soul, John 16:17-24



Help 1,000 Flowers Bloom On Our Newly Renovated Front Lawn

Join our church's Green Team for major flower planting as the last phase of our years-long project to renovate our church. Help Green Team volunteers plant annuals and perennials at 6:00 p.m. on Monday nights in mid-September (adults and teens welcome) and on the weekends of Sept. 13 and 20.

Please let us know you're coming by contacting Nancy Ralston at nancyralston1@gmail.com or 816-590-1533. Bring a trowel to help bring beauty to our front lawn and let 1,000 flowers bloom.



Bible Studies and Faith Formation Groups

Childcare will be available for all classes with advance reservation. To register or for information about a specific class, call 816-333-4917.

Faithbook – Women ages 25-66 explore the scriptures and share in friendship and the spirit does the rest! If you don't have time for homework between your work, your family and your volunteering, then this is the class for you. Led by Rev. Carla Aday. The group meets Tuesday evening OR Wednesday morning. Pick the time frame that fits your schedule. Tuesdays, 7:00-8:00 p.m., Sept. 9-Nov. 18. Wednesdays, 9:00-10:00 a.m., Sept. 10-Nov. 19.

Reel Faith – Watch a movie, enjoy pizza and then discuss the movie to see what images of faith are captured by the film. Meet at the Sulgrave Regency Condominiums in the movie theater. Films to be announced. Limit: 14 people. Led by Phil and Patty Love. Four opportunities: Sept. 5, Nov. 16, Feb. 8, June 7. 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study – Designed for senior adults. Meets every Wednesday morning to study the Bible in an effort to create a deeper understanding through lecture and discussion. This

year's subject is the Gospel of Mark. Led by Rev. Joe Walker. 9:00 a.m., Rm. 206.

Senior Minister's Bible Study – Join Dr. Glen Miles for an engaging discussion of what the Bible really says about... homosexuality, politics, science and the environment, and other contemporary topics. The final night will be a "Preacher on the Hot Seat" with participants providing the questions for Glen to respond to during the hour. Mon., Oct. 13, 20, 27, Nov. 3, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Creating the Covenant – How do we relate to God? This new class is an eight-week focus on Creating the Covenant. Combining the best of accessible Biblical scholarship and engaging dialogue, this class will appeal to all stages and ages in the spiritual journey.

Men's Class – Wed., Oct. 1-Nov. 19, 7:00-8:30 a.m. Jeff Zimmerman and Phil Love, facilitators.

Parents of Young Children – Sundays, Oct. 5-Nov. 23, 4:00-5:30 p.m. Monica Lewis and Meredith Holladay, facilitators.

Intergenerational Class – Sundays, Sept. 14- Nov. 2, 9:30-11:00 a.m. Lesley Holt and Carla Aday, facilitators

Couple Communication – Couple Communication is an award-winning educational program that teaches you and your partner practical communication skills. Develop confidence to communicate with your partner effectively, creating better resolutions to conflict and increasing satisfaction in your relationship. Couples who were married at the church may take the course for free. Materials cost is \$37. Mondays, Sept. 15-Oct. 6, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Soul Mates – If you are recently engaged or recently married, we invite you to participate in Soul Mates, a class designed specifically for you. Each class will be led by experienced facilitators and will focus on cultivating your relationship and discussing topics that are relevant to you. Sundays, Oct. 12-Nov. 9. Contact weddings@cccckc.org.



The True Test of Prayer

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



William Willimon, the former chaplain at Duke, says that the true test of prayer is not the style or the movement or the meaning; it is ethics. He says that “the test for what we do here from eleven to noon is what we do out there Monday through Saturday.”

Sometimes I like to keep a prayer journal, a written record of the content of my prayers. I’ve invited parishioners to do this too. It is a remarkable exercise. In almost every instance a few weeks worth of prayer journaling reveals the issues or concerns that are at work on our souls.

Prayer, if it is truly prayer, changes our behavior. When we enter into authentic prayer we will discover that this is risky business. If we enter into silence and ask God to lead and guide our lives there is no telling where we might end up.

Henri Nouwen liked to say that he went into seclusion for prayer because it gave him the opportunity to listen to God and to listen to humans. In order to hear the voice of God and those he was ministering to he needed to be quiet. Going into seclusion, even if only for a few minutes, is shutting down the noise so that we can truly connect to the world.

In the film *Shadowlands*, a movie based on the life of CS Lewis, there is a scene where Lewis is returning from the hospital where he visited his wife, Joy, who is dying from cancer. A friend named Harrington asks Lewis what news there is. Lewis focuses on their marriage and his love for his wife. He replies to his friend, “Good news Harry, yes good news.”

Harrington thinks Lewis is referring to the cancer. He says, “Now God is answering your prayer.”

Lewis responds, “That is not why I pray Harry. I pray because I can’t help myself. I pray because I am helpless. I pray because the need flows out of me all the time, waking and sleeping. Prayer doesn’t change God, it changes me.”

Prayer changes us.

Prayer points the way to love of neighbor.

Prayer directs us to open our lives, our hearts to God.

When we pray like that we are caught up in the very life and purpose of God.

Grace and peace to you,

Upcoming Visitor Event

We invite all guests and friends of the congregation to attend an upcoming social and informational gathering to learn more about the church, meet the ministers and ask questions about the denomination and congregation. Sun., Oct. 12, 12:15-1:30 p.m. For more information or to RSVP for one of the events, please contact Meredith Holladay at meredithh@cccckc.org.

Worship with us!

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

Aug. 31

Un-hypocritical Love

Romans 12:9-21

Rev. Carla Aday preaching

Sermon Series:

**Soul Searching: Finding the You
God Created You to Be**

Sept. 7

Is it Well with Your Soul?

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Mark 8:34-36

Sept. 14

Lost Souls

Matthew 19:16-22

Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

Dave Helling to Speak at Lunch and Learn

Tuesday, Sept. 16

Dave Helling, columnist for *The Kansas City Star*, kicks off the Lunch and Learn series with his unique perspectives on local issues on Tues., Sept. 16, at 11:30 a.m. in the Social Hall.



Helling's years of local experience and journalistic excellence will offer keen insights on regional issues and leadership. He is the multimedia reporter for *The Kansas City Star* and a frequent panelist on KCPT's Kansas City Week in Review. Raised in Overland Park, Dave is a 1973 graduate of Shawnee Mission West High School and a 1977 graduate of Creighton University. Among other recognitions, Dave has received the Freedom of the Press Award and three Emmy nominations. Dave returned home to Kansas City in 1984 as an anchor/reporter for WDAF-TV and later became an anchor/reporter for KCTV-5.

Cost for the lunch and presentation is \$10 per person. RSVP to Mary Margaret at marymargareth@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917.

Lunch and Learn is a monthly lunch program with inspiring and informative presentations ranging from personal topics to current and historical events. Everyone is welcome.

Household Donations for Della Lamb Resettlement Program

On Sat., Sept. 13, we will be collecting household items from 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. in the Combs Chapel parking lot for Della Lamb Community Services, one of the agencies in our Northeast PartNERship.

Items needed include:

- Linens – sheet sets, bath towels, dish towels, pillows
- Cooking items – pots and pans, dish sets for four, baking dishes, utensils, flatware sets
- Furniture – bed frames, tables, lamps, chairs, fans, sofa/ loveseats, dresser, TV/radios

Save the date for Grace at Work on October 11

Join us on Sat., Oct. 11, for this fun-filled half day volunteer opportunity as we put grace to work by dusting a pew, serving a bowl of soup, planting a flower or hammering a nail at agencies across the metro. Complimentary hot breakfast begins at 8:00 a.m.



Pathways to Learning



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. 9:55-10:55 a.m., Social Hall.

Sept. 28 and Oct. 12 – Windows on Faith. A look at the stories in our newly restored stained glass windows. Dr. George Gordon will lead the conversation on Sept. 28 and Rev. David Diebold and Dr. Meredith Holladay on Oct. 12.

Oct. 5 – Before and After. Tom Rewerts, Thomas Rewerts and Associates, will show slides and talk about the transformation of this 90-year-old sacred structure.

Nov. 2 and 9 – When Faith Meets Politics. Steve Kraske of *The Kansas City Star* will speak on Nov. 2 and the Honorable Kay Barnes, former Kansas City mayor, will speak on Nov. 9.

Virginia Reed Food Drive on September 14

On Sun., Sept. 14, 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."



Wonderful Volunteers

By Lindsay Howes, Director of Children's Ministries



This is my first time writing a staff column for our church newsletter. It still seems a bit surreal to be considered "staff" in this amazing place. Phil and I were married in this church nearly seven years ago. Prior to our marriage, we began visiting and getting a little involved. We wanted to make sure this truly was our church home before making the commitment to become members. Shortly after our wedding, we knew we were in the right spot. Both Phil and I were asked to shepherd the incoming kindergarten class on Sunday mornings.

We were so excited to be asked to be a part of such an important team within the church. We were also VERY nervous. We arrived early that morning and went to our classroom, still not really knowing what to expect. I remember being afraid they would ask me a question I wouldn't know how to respond to or somehow I was going to mess up. After the kids arrived, none of that mattered. It was awesome! The kids had so much energy and they were so eager to learn, play and get to know one another.

Since then, Phil and I have remained involved with the children's ministry and each year moved up with those kindergartners, who are now sixth graders. Yikes! It has been amazing to watch them grow in their faith and become leaders to the younger children.

In my new role, I am excited for the opportunities and new things that are happening all over our church and especially in our children's and student ministries. I know we hear the phrase, "it takes a village" so often, but it really does. I was blown away by the volunteers who came forward and rocked it during Vacation Bible School. That first evening I had to stop and take a break from all the emotions I was feeling from the overwhelming support and realizing in that moment how important this role was and that God was truly at work in everyone in those halls.

We are fortunate to have this church and wonderful people who are willing to volunteer and even step outside their comfort zone to help guide our children and students on their faith journeys. Thanks to all of you who continue to support the various activities and programs within this faith community.

"Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness." Romans 12:6-8

Lindsay

Save the Date: Oct. 5 for Re-dedication of Our Building

Join us on Sun., Oct. 5, as we re-dedicate our 92-year-old building for the next century.



After two years of construction, it's time to celebrate the beautifully refurbished exterior. Our new alabaster stone work will be glistening as we dedicate the church for the years ahead.

Country Club Christian Church was established in October 1920 and the original part of the building was ready for occupancy in 1922. The sanctuary building was constructed next, dedicated on Jan. 24, 1926.

Watch for details about the upcoming celebration.

Nicaragua Mission Information Meeting

A mission team from Country Club Christian Church will travel to Nicaragua Feb. 21-Mar. 1, 2015. If you would like to learn more about this opportunity, attend a meeting on Sun., Sept. 14, at 12:15 p.m. in Rm. 201. Our team will partner with the poorest of the poor to conduct medical clinics and assist with construction projects in a rural community.

Third Graders Receive Bibles



Receiving Bibles on Aug. 17 during the 11:00 a.m. service were (left to right) back row: Russell Smith, Tristan Roske, Andy Cooper, Amelia Hicks, Lauren McGuire, Sidra Sakati. Front row: Patrick Migliazzo, Jake Bartlett, Adam Bell, Riley Zschoche, Luke Steinlicht.

Below with Dr. Miles are Jack Milroy and Mason Hedrick, who received their Bibles at the 9:00 a.m. service.



New Sunday Schedule for Children and Students

Beginning Sun., Sept. 14

5:00-5:30 p.m. – Snack Supper, Grades 3-12

5:30-7:00 p.m. – Club Kids, Grades 3-5

5:30-7:00 p.m. – Student Group, Grades 6-12

Beginning Sun., Sept. 14, our Sunday morning music schedule will be as follows:

9:30-10:00: a.m. – Children's Music, Grades 1-5

During 10:00 a.m. Sunday School – Grow Choir, 2 years-Kindergarten

11:00-11:30 a.m. – Student Music, Grades 6-12

As always, if you have any questions, please contact Rev. Monica Lewis at monical@cccckc.org, Lindsay Howes at lindsayh@cccckc.org, or Allie Cobb at alliec@cccckc.org.

Upcoming Student Events

Sun., Aug. 31 – No Youth Group due to Labor Day weekend.

Sun., Sept. 21 – High School BBQ Tour. Noon-3:00 p.m. High School students get out your bibs and wet wipes! We are going on a Kansas City BBQ tour. Get your taste buds ready. More information soon.

Sun., Sept. 21 – 7th Grade Gathering. 3:45-4:30 p.m. Stay tuned for more details.

Family Night at Micah

Student families are invited to serve together at Independence Boulevard Christian Church's Micah Ministry on Mon., Sept. 8. Meet at Independence Boulevard Christian Church at 5:00 p.m.



Cohesive. Permeable.

by Rev. Joe Walker, Minister of Congregational Care



If I was a really smart science guy, I would be able to come up with some fascinating example from the natural world to illustrate how a “thing” can have the properties of cohesion and permeability at the same time.

Alas, I’m not such a smart science guy, so I turned to the *Random House Dictionary* for definitions. In physics, cohesion is “of or pertaining to the molecular force within a body or substance acting to unite its parts.”

Permeable means simply “capable of being permeated” or having something “diffused through”: think of soft afternoon sunlight gently filtering through a window

and warming the room.

For a couple of years I have been using these two terms as I have pondered how groups of people – households, neighborhoods, schools, churches, workplaces – can best strive to both incorporate new members and at the same time maintain strong bonds that enable the group to be productive and survive crises. Speaking of the church – but applicable to the other settings as well – we say that it is the Holy Spirit that enables the church to be both tight-knit and open and welcoming simultaneously. Spirit helps us appreciate all of us as united in one Body of Christ, each of us bringing our unique God-given talents to the whole.

Sometimes in church conversations we want to use the word “family” to express how we are trying to be both cohesive and permeable. I always hesitate to use family as an analogy for three reasons. The first two are fairly obvious: not everyone has experienced positive relationships in their family-of-origin, and the word can be heard as expressing a particular ideological agenda. The third reason “family” gives me pause is that in some congregations I have known, the members were really talking about the church as it was at a particular point in time or during some era in the church’s history, forgetting that families are dynamic and constantly evolving organisms.

Individuals are born into and die from their family. Families come together to form new families. Everyone in the family changes – age, health, school or work are always impacting the individuals and therefore the family unit.

I have found that the image and language of family and extended family can be helpful in church and other conversations if we first prayerfully reflect on and apply learning from our own experiences. We might recall times when an individual or another family was welcomed into our expanding family unit and what attitudes and gestures helped facilitate that transition. For instance, in the case of holidays, how did everyone negotiate changes in schedules or customs to respect different traditions while still fully embracing the new reality?

As we recall occasions in family or other contexts where we have experienced that very special sense of a group coming together and bonding, we can be confident that the Spirit will continue to encourage and empower our commitment to be both cohesive and permeable.

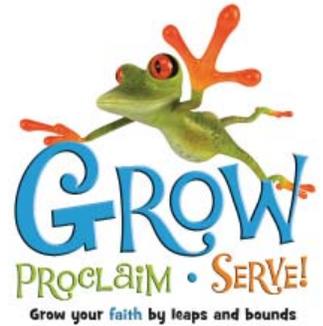
Joe

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.



September Collection Connection

In September, we are collecting toilet paper and deodorant for our friends at Independence Boulevard Christian Church’s Micah Ministry. Please place your donations in the basket in the parlor.

Non-Profit Organization
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 Kansas City, MO 64113

Return Service Requested

PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. R. Glen Miles Senior Minister	Ms. Allie Cobb Director of Student Ministries
Rev. Carla Aday Senior Associate Minister	Dr. Meredith Holladay Minister of Membership Development
Rev. David Diebold Minister of Music	Ms. Lindsay Howes Director of Children's Ministries
Rev. Monica Lewis Minister to Children, Students 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
Mr. John D. Clemmer Business Administrator	Ms. Lara Schopp Director of Communications

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816-333-4917 fax: 816-333-7538
 email: office@cccckc.org website: www.cccckc.org

Festival Sunday Celebration



Festival Sunday on Aug. 17 kicked off the beginning of a new year of spiritual growth opportunities for children, youth and adults. Third graders received their Bibles (see page 6) and the VBS Children added their voices to worship. A picnic on the front lawn provided an opportunity for fun and fellowship.

Memorials

Joan James

Polly Gallant
 Bette McDaniel
 Rob & Ann Ramseyer
 Virginia Watson

Alyce King

Ruth & Ray Luhnrow
 Virginia Watson

Scott McDaniel

Leawood Women's Club

Chuck Roberts

Mary Moore
 Robert & Karen Robinson
 Robert & Cheryl Steinkamp Charitable Fund