



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.*

### Losing My Religion: Finding God New Sermon Series Begins October 7

The church and our culture are changing rapidly. This is both worrisome and hopeful, but more than anything it is a great opportunity to rediscover the presence of God in our lives. Join us on Sundays in October for Dr. R. Glen Miles' sermon series *Losing My Religion: Finding God*.

Oct. 7 – Part 1 – When Religion Fails  
*Micah 6: 1-8*

Oct. 14 – Part 2 – Nomads and Prodigals  
*Matthew 5: 1-12*

Oct. 21 – Part 3 – Beyond Belief  
*Romans 12: 9-21*

### Senior Minister's Bible Study: Taking the Bible Seriously, Not Literally Beginning October 8

Have you ever wanted to understand the Bible at a level that opens the mind while enlarging your spirit? Does the Bible feel like an ancient document with no rhyme or reason to it but you'd still like to learn how to navigate your way through it?

For four weeks in October, Glen Miles will lead a discussion that promises, if you bring your head and your heart, a witty, theologically progressive and spiritually open course on how to interpret the Bible.

Join Glen on Mondays in October, beginning Oct. 8, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Social Hall. Sign up by calling Mary Margaret House at 816-333-4917.

## Youth Play Hunger Games at Fall Family Fest



Steve Miles, Jansen Hess, Parker Hoffman, and Ross Commerford enjoyed the festival.



Scott Fuller and Parker Hoffman prepare for hunger games.



## Town Hall Meeting Explains Construction Plans

At a Congregational Town Hall meeting on Sept. 16 in the Social Hall, Dan Jensen, Chair of the Practical Services Council, and Tom Rewerts, the structural engineer for the project, provided information about the significant increase in construction costs for Country Club Christian Church's exterior restoration project. Because of the revised construction figures, the original Capital Campaign goal of \$3.3 million has been increased to \$4.9 million.

In March 2010, construction costs were estimated to be \$1,835,000. In the course of further investigation in November 2011, unforeseeable issues contained within the structure of the church were identified. Tom Rewerts explained where and how the deterioration has occurred and the degree of severity. He then presented the course for repair. Dan Jensen will oversee the project on behalf of the church, and Tom Rewerts will make on-site visits for continual evaluation on progress.

Another Congregational Town Hall meeting has been scheduled for Sun., Nov. 11, at 12:15 p.m. in the Social Hall. At that meeting Greg Lear, Capital Campaign Chair, and Stuart Hoffman, Past Congregational Board Chair, will discuss the current Capital Campaign status and present an action plan to move us forward toward the new goal.

If you have any questions about the project, please feel free to call Greg Lear at 816-523-6936, or Glen Miles at 816-333-4917, or Barbara George at 913-269-3878.

## Interim Choir Director Hired

Debra Anderson has begun work as our new interim Children's and Youth Choir Director. Debra is on the faculty of the middle school music program at Pembroke Hill School. She brings great enthusiasm and skill to the job here at Country Club Christian Church, and we are thrilled to have her with us. Her first rehearsals with our young people were on Sun., Sept. 23. Many of you will remember Debra as a former member of our music staff. She held the position of Director of Children's and Youth Music here during the late 1980s. When you see her in the hall on Sundays, please make her feel welcome.

A search committee, chaired by Tepring Crocker, has met and begun the process of finding a replacement for Laine Riley, who left us on Sept. 9. Other members of the Search Committee include: Andy Berry, Erin Howard, Marcia Ramsey and Jim Wells.

## In the Footsteps of Paul

Join Glen and Julie Miles, Lauren Weinholt and Scott Fuller as they travel to Greece and the Greek Isles Oct. 8-18, 2013. Enjoy great food, comprehensive sightseeing and memorable fellowship. For more information, please contact Glen at [glenm@cccckc.org](mailto:glenm@cccckc.org) or Lauren at [laurenw@cccckc.org](mailto:laurenw@cccckc.org).



## Pathways to Learning – Politics and Religion



**Oct. 14 – Religion and Politics Today** – Bill Tammeus, former editorialist and religion writer from the *Kansas City Star*

**Oct. 21 – Religion and Politics in the Time of Our Nation's Founding** – Professor Barry Crawford from Washburn University

**Oct. 28 – Religion and Politics in the time of Jesus** – Dr. David May, Central Baptist Seminary

## Collection Connection

### Pillowcases for Dresses

The church's sewing group is creating the popular girls dresses made from pillowcases that our mission teams have taken to South Africa and Nicaragua.



They are busy creating dresses for the mission team to take when they go to Nicaragua in February. Please bring your new or gently used pillowcases to the basket in the parlor.



# The End Is a Beginning

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



The end is a beginning but it is not always an easy thing to face. Endings often bring confusion, sadness and pain. They symbolize loss and disorientation.

Anne Lamott says that her two favorite prayers are “Help me” and “thank you.” I like that but sometimes I feel like my life gets stuck between those prayers. When this happens I think it would be great if I could get some sort of heavenly voicemail telling me what to do next. This reality seems even more so during endings and beginnings.

When our oldest was born, we were thrilled. We had struggled through a miscarriage. We had tried to get pregnant for a couple of years. When word came that we were going to have a boy we named him, Nathaniel, gift of God. The first three nights after his birth were great. We had a private room in the hospital and every time he cried a nice nurse came in and took him away so we could rest. We took him home on the fourth day. That night he started crying at 11:00 p.m. and was still going strong at 2:00 a.m. I called the hospital. I got the nice nurse on the phone. I told her he was crying and would not stop. She said, “Mr. Miles, babies cry. Good night.” Click. I no longer think of her as the nice nurse. It was a new beginning but it was also an ending.

We had longed for this child but we did not realize all of the changes that would come into our lives like the loss of intimacy, a shortage of money and a host of other changes.

A man, an atheist, visited a pastor. He asked, “I want to believe in God, I want to find God. How do I do this?” The pastor said, “You can’t find God but God will find you.” The man left disappointed. He wanted answers to his tough questions.

Three years later the same man came back to the pastor. He said, “Pastor, I’m dying. When word of my disease and death came I decided to reunite with my family. I had not spoken with them for years. I went to my mother, to my father, to my brother to simply say ‘I love you.’ Pastor, when I found the courage to say those words, God found me.”

The end is a beginning in which nothing is clear, except for this: the work which God has given us to do will one day, finally, be completed by the mercy and grace of our Lord.

Grace and peace to you,

## Embracing an Adult Faith

Who was Jesus? Who is God? What is salvation? How do we practice our faith? If you’ve pondered these questions, then this class provides you with a brief (only five sessions) opportunity for a richer understanding of issues in contemporary Christian practice and theology. The class will meet weekly beginning Tue., Oct. 9 and continuing through Nov. 6, 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Solarium (Rm. 309). Lauren Weinhold will lead the discussion. Cost is \$13 including the book. Sign up with Mary Margaret House at 816-333-4917 or [marymargareth@cccckc.org](mailto:marymargareth@cccckc.org).

## Worship with us!

**Services at 9:00, 10:00  
and 11:00 a.m.**

**September 30**

The Boundaries of God  
Mr. Justin Zeigler preaching  
*Mark 9: 38-50*

**October Sermon Series  
Losing My Religion: Finding God**

**Oct. 7**

Part 1 – When Religion Fails  
*Micah 6: 1-8*

**Oct. 14**

Part 2 – Nomads and Prodigals  
*Matthew 5: 1-12*

# Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

## Canned Yoga Class



Tone up with the Canned Yoga Class on Mondays at 10:30 a.m. Bring two 16 oz. cans of vegetables or fruit to use as weights for a class which focuses on poses for toning muscles, especially upper arms. At the end of each month, the canned goods will be donated to The Virginia Reed Food Drive. Join this fun class to stretch, tone your muscles, and enjoy a great work-out for a great cause. Located in the Solarium (Rm. 309). \$10 per class. Open to members, non-members, and all faiths.

## 2012 Tall Oaks Gala Is October 19

Tall Oaks Conference Center's 15th annual gala fundraiser, Tall Oaks Gala MMXII, will be at Arrowhead Stadium. All fans can rally to help by bringing auction donations, making a reservation and coming prepared to make a cash donation.



The event is Fri., Oct. 19, and begins with stadium tours at 5:30 p.m. Fellowship time and silent auction begin at 6:00 p.m. Dinner is served at 7:45 p.m. followed by a spirited live auction at 9:00 p.m. Stadium tours cost \$10 per person. Tickets for the dinner are \$90 per person, \$720 to host a table of 8, or \$1,000 to sponsor a table of 8. Tables of 10 are available on request.

Auction donations are greatly appreciated as well. Auction items that are record-breakers are gift certificates, arts, crafts, sporting events, theme baskets, labors of love, travel and entertainment tickets, and cash donations. All donations are tax deductible. Contact our Tall Oaks Ambassador Vicki Lopatofsky at 913-908-1048 or [vicki@billsoft.com](mailto:vicki@billsoft.com) with donation questions. For dinner reservations, contact Ken Mohler at [kmohler@swbell.net](mailto:kmohler@swbell.net) or 816-444-1553.

## 2013 Mission Trip to Joplin

Country Club Christian Church will be sending a mission team to Joplin, MO, again next year. Mark your calendars for May 5-11, 2013. To sign up or for more information, contact Betsy Wilson at [betcwilsonkc@yahoo.com](mailto:betcwilsonkc@yahoo.com). The team will continue to help with the recovery following the 2011 tornado.



2012 Mission Team

## 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).



## Rose Garden Memorial Bricks Now 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. Existing bricks in the Rose Garden pathway will be used and can be purchased for an introductory price of \$250 each through Dec. 31, 2012. Beginning Jan. 1, 2013 the price will increase to \$350. Price includes brick, imprinting and placement. Contact 816-333-4917 for more information.





## Peace

by Lisa McCleish, Director of Early Childhood Programs



We are little more than a month into the school year and, as with all teachers, everyone is planning and thinking ahead. Halloween activities were decided back in September and the preschool teachers are discussing the Thanksgiving Feast. Our first Parent Board meeting revolved around plans for Breakfast with Santa and the early months of 2013 are quickly filling with events.

By necessity, it sometimes feels as if life is spent planning and thinking ahead. By the time the event arrives, it can be difficult to enjoy because we are either planning another event or we are let down after all the hype of getting ready.

This summer I was blessed to be able to vacation in Alaska; there was some planning that went into the trip, but most of that was left to the cousins who live in Anchorage and Valdez.

We did all the typical tourist things one does in Alaska: a tour through Denali National Park, glacier hiking, a whale watching day cruise. Each trip was more breath-taking and beautiful than the one before.

On the day we were to go fly fishing, I convinced my cousin that I would entertain myself at the lake rather than stand in waist deep cold water with him yelling instructions. It stayed light until after 10:00 p.m. so I had about five hours in front of me. I hiked a wooded trail until I scared myself into remembering I could come face-to-face with a bear, watched the fisherman until the wind got too cold and took pictures.

We were far enough off the beaten path, that there were no people or cars to watch, the radio didn't work, there was no cell phone reception and I hadn't been able to check email the whole time I was there (in spite of having internet). I was faced with a calm and peaceful silence, time to simply enjoy God's company.

Ask me about the trip and I will gladly tell you stories about watching moose and elk, and seeing bears catch salmon to feed their cubs; I can show you pictures of glaciers, waterfalls and all kinds of fish I cannot even name. Somewhere in those stories, though, I will tell you that for a few hours I just felt peace.

May you be blessed with God's peace in ever increasing measure.

## Service of Prayer and Meditation on October 2

Join us for a peaceful time of song, scripture, prayer and meditation at 7:30 p.m. on Tues., Oct. 2, in the Combs Chapel. In this sacred space, experience the Holy for comfort and renewed hope.

## Virginia Reed Food Drive on October 21

On Sun., Oct. 21, please bring your non-perishable 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."

## Car Seat Parents Series

Parents of children birth to age 6 are invited to share in faith conversations on Sunday mornings in October, beginning Oct. 14, from 10:00-10:50 a.m. in the Pine Room (Rm. 10). Sunday School classes are available for children 3 ½ and up or childcare for younger during this time. The group continues to meet on Oct. 21 and 28. Please plan to join us! The program will be repeated in the spring.



## CYF and Chi Rho Sunday Nights

5:30-7:30 p.m.

All 6th-12th graders are invited to join us this fall at a new time and with a new format for Youth Ministry. Each Sunday of the month will focus 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. During months when there are five Sundays, we'll use that evening for planning and feedback.

### Serve – Oct. 7

CYF and Chi Rho will travel to Sheffield Place to give them a BBQ and game night.

### Journey

Come hang out with an adult mentor from the congregation or minister as they share part of their faith journey, and help us navigate our own.

Chi Rho – Oct. 21. Tim Webster

CYF – Oct. 14. Jere Hanney

### Quest

We will play games and do activities based around the question of the month "What are friends anyway?"

Chi Rho – Oct. 14

CYF – Oct. 21

### Connect – Oct. 21

All youth will go to Worlds of Fun. Contact Justin at [justinz@cccckc.org](mailto:justinz@cccckc.org).

## Monday CYF Study Break

We all know that you may spend Sunday night cramming all your homework that you were supposed to do during the weekend but take a break on Monday night. Watch for weekly study break locations at coffee shops, ice cream places, and other locations around Kansas City. For more information, contact Justin Zeigler, [justinz@cccckc.org](mailto:justinz@cccckc.org).

## Grace at Work on September 15



Members of the congregation fanned out across Kansas City on Sept. 15 to put their faith in action. Above, volunteers prepared gift bags that will be used for foster kids in the program supported by Cornerstones of Care. Right, volunteers helped prepare food at Rose Brooks Center.





## God Is ...

by Catherine Stark-Corn



I love children's books. In another life I might be a children's librarian so I could spend my days surrounded by children's books. Well written picture books can reach beyond their intended audience of younger children to speak life's truths to people of all ages. Recently, I have been exploring a book by sharing a few pages with my family during dinner. The book, *Images of God* by Marie Helene Delval, seeks to help young children find language to talk about God.

Page by page the author connects God to images that bring fresh ways of naming and knowing the Holy One. God is peace, God is a healer, God is strength, God is a friend, God is life. Several of the images she presents help me know God anew...

*God is a spring.*

*No one can live without water.*

*As our bodies are thirsty for water, our souls are thirsty for love—*

*And for beauty and for goodness, for justice and for truth.*

*God is all of these and more.*

*God is the source of all these things and invites us to drink from this spring.*

Another image Delval shares pulls me into the majesty of God.

*God is beauty.*

*The mountain peaks and the depths of the sea.*

*The light of day and the shadows of night,*

*The marvelous birds and the fabulous fish*

*The multitudes of trees, of plants and of animals*

*All these splendors are just a tiny reflection of the perfect beauty of God.*

*But perhaps what reflects God's beauty the best is the expression of people who love, who hope and who work to make life beautiful.*

Being able to discover new ways to think of God, to name God, to know God helps renew my relationship with the sacred One. Like so many things in life a certain level of familiarity is comforting and provides security, but in order to deepen and grow we must continue to find new connections that speak to our heart and call us into seeing God and the world in life giving ways. God is....

*Catherine*

## Children and Families

### Fountains of Faith

**Garden of Eden, Sept. 23 – Oct. 21**

1st-5th graders are enjoying a five-week rotation focused on the story of Adam and Eve in the Garden. This rotation approaches these beginning Bible stories from a viewpoint of God's eternal grace. What must we do to be right with God and how has God always shown us forgiveness? Ultimately, it is God's steadfast love that endures forever. Come and explore this story through cooking, storytelling, games, art and more.

### Club Kids

#### Tall Oaks for Team Building

**Sun., Sept. 30, Noon - 5:00 p.m.**

We will eat at church then depart to Tall Oaks Conference Center in Linwood, KS for an afternoon of team building on the low ropes course led by a trained facilitator. We will return to church by 5:00 (south pick-up location as needed). Cost is \$20 which includes lunch, fees and snacks. RSVP to Karla [karlah@cccckc.org](mailto:karlah@cccckc.org)

**Oct. 7, 14, 21**

Regular sessions, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

### Mystery Trip for 1st-2nd Graders

**Sat., Oct. 13, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Make plans to join us for this fun Mystery Trip. Cost is \$10 and bring a sack lunch. Please RSVP soon. We need a minimum of 10 children to attend. RSVP to Catherine Stark-Corn at [catherinesc@cccckc.org](mailto:catherinesc@cccckc.org).

### First Steps

**Sunday, October 7, 10:00-10:45 a.m.**

Families with children 3 and under are invited to join us in the Play Zone (Rm 215) for a time of family fellowship. Come share with other parents of infants and toddlers. See you then!

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Kansas City, MO 64113

Return Service Requested

## PROGRAM STAFF

|                                                                              |                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Dr. R. Glen Miles<br>Senior Minister                                         | Ms. Karla Herrington<br>Director of Children's<br>Ministries |
| Rev. Carla Aday<br>Senior Associate<br>Minister                              | Dr. Brian Mathias<br>Associate Organist                      |
| Rev. David Diebold<br>Minister of Music                                      | Ms. Lisa McCleish<br>Director of Early<br>Childhood Programs |
| Rev. Catherine Stark-<br>Corn<br>Minister to Children,<br>Youth and Families | Ms. Lara Schopp<br>Director of Communica-<br>tions           |
| Rev. Chuck Murphy<br>Minister of Congrega-<br>tional Care                    | Ms. Lauren Weinhold<br>Director of Church<br>Growth          |
| Mr. Justin Zeigler<br>Minister to Youth                                      |                                                              |

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# Our Church Family

## Sympathy

NADINE BERGER passed away Sept. 19. She is survived by her children, R. Bryan Berger and Christine Miller. Services were Sept. 26 in the Sanctuary, Rev. Chuck Murphy officiating.

## Memorials

### Bob Carlson

Fritz & Nancy Zschietzschmann

### Lois Russell

June Turley

### Gene Snyder

Paula Lane

Homesteaders SS class

Maureen McGinty

Shirley & Kenneth Miller

A.L. Williams

June Turley

Max & Sue Deweese

### Irene Klein

Tri C's Class

Max & Sue Deweese

### Music Fund

### John J Turley

Fritz & Nancy Zschietzschmann

## Honorarium

### Music Fund

Jere Hanney and David Diebold

## Weddings

ANNE PHILLION and BRET CLARK were married in the Sanctuary on Sept. 1.

KIRSTEN KENNEDY and RYAN BREWER, son of Kathleen and Reagan Brewer, were married in the Sanctuary on Sept. 1.

JILLIAN WOODFORD and JONATHAN WASSON were married in the Sanctuary on Sept. 8.

SUSAN HOLMAN and MELVIN SARMIENTO were married in the Sanctuary on Sept. 22.

NICOLE CHURCHWELL and EDDIE ELLERMEIER will be married in the Sanctuary on Sept. 29.