

INSIDE

The Last Best Word
by Glen Miles
≈≈≈
page 3

Building Life Friendships
by Hayley Holt
≈≈≈
page 5

Thank You
by Carla Aday
≈≈≈
page 7

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.

Last Chance to Sign Up for Grace at Work

Join us on Sat., Oct. 5, for this fun-filled half-day volunteer opportunity. Your hands can put grace to work by dusting a pew, serving a bowl of soup, planting a flower, hammering a nail! Sign up to serve in



the way that fits you best by stopping in the parlor, filling out a form in worship or going to the church website.

Gather at the church from 8:00-8:30 a.m. for a complimentary hot breakfast and then depart with your work crew to serve at one of the agencies in our community.



Opportunities still include: Harvesters Community Food Network, Habitat for Humanity, Newhouse Shelter, Indian Mound Neighborhood Community Garden, Shepherd's Center, and some work teams will stay at the church to work on an interior project. Some projects are designed specifically for families so bring the kids along too. Childcare available for the youngest children. Sign up in the Parlor on Sept. 29 or on our website at www.cccckc.org.

Welcome Events for Rev. Monica Lewis

You have two opportunities to welcome Rev. Monica Lewis as our new Minister to Children, Youth and Families. Monica begins work on Tues., Oct. 1.



On Sun., Oct. 6, children through 5th graders and their parents are invited to stop by for

coffee, juice and treats before and after Sunday School from 9:30-10:00 a.m. and 10:45-11:00 a.m. on the second floor outside the Youth Center (Rm. 205).

All youth and their parents are invited to come to a welcome dinner for Monica on Sun., Oct. 13, from 5:30-6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. A light dinner will be served. Please RSVP to Mary Margaret at 816-333-4917 or marymargareth@cccckc.org so we have enough food. Youth Group will continue afterward until 7:30 p.m.

**Reception for Rev. Carla Aday
Celebrating 25 Years of Ministry**



On Sun., Sept. 29, we are recognizing Rev. Carla Aday for her 25 years of ministry at Country Club Christian Church. A presentation will be made during the 11:00 a.m. service, and please stop by the Parlor after the service for a reception in Carla's honor. A basket will be available for you to leave cards and notes.



Sign Up for 2014 Christian Community Camp

Sign up beginning Sun., Oct. 6, for a glorious week at the YMCA of the Rockies near Estes Park, CO. The 2014 camp will be Aug. 2-9. For many years, families and individuals from our congregation have gathered for a week of hiking, horseback riding, fishing, crafting, relaxing and fun at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park, Colorado. The group of 60-90 folks from ages 1 to 91 stays in a newly remodeled lodge with lovely mountain views and enjoys the home cooked meals provided by volunteer chefs from our church. If you don't like to camp but you love the mountains, this is the place for you. A registration form and a \$250 non-refundable desposit will hold your place. Cost is \$1,550 for a private room (\$1,450 if paid in full by Dec. 1); \$350 for a bunk room (\$300 if paid in full by Dec. 1). Food and activity fee of \$80 per person. For more information, stop by the Last Supper Sculpture Room on Sun., Oct. 6, to pick up a brochure or ask questions. Or contact Rev. Carla Aday at carlaa@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917.



Staff Change



Rev. Chuck Murphy has announced his resignation, effective Nov. 30, 2013. Chuck has been on staff here for three years as the Minister of Congregational Care.

“Chuck has been a fine pastor, a loyal team member and a compassionate caregiver during his time on our staff. I know many of you have appreciated the opportunity to work with Chuck, to attend one of his Bible studies, or to be comforted by him in a time of need. It has been a joy to serve with Chuck, and I know you will join me in wishing him well. I look forward to celebrating Chuck's ministry among you in the coming months,” said Dr. Miles.

Please watch for more information in the coming weeks about an opportunity to recognize and thank Chuck for his years of ministry.

Pathways to Learning: In the Footsteps of Paul



Dr. David May, Professor of New Testament at Central Baptist Theological Seminary, will talk about Paul's travels.

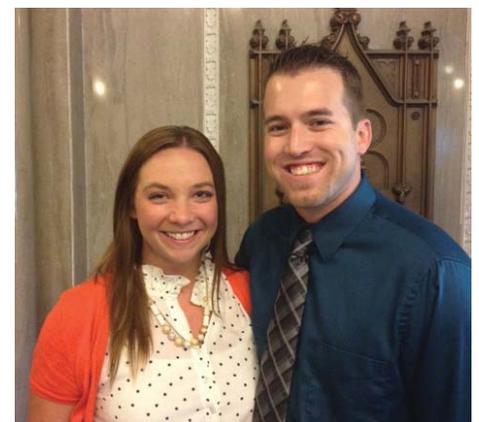
Sundays, Sept. 29 and Oct. 6, 9:55-10:55 a.m., Social Hall.

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. Ideal for those who aren't involved in a Sunday School class; entire Sunday School classes also encouraged to participate as a group. Visitors and guests welcome.

Coming in November: The Gospel in 7 Words

Dr. Molly Marshall, President of Central Baptist Theological Seminary (optional two-week follow up classes and groups). Nov. 3, 9:55-10:55 a.m., Social Hall.

Baptism



Jaclyn Hains, with husband Chris, was baptized Sept. 22 during the 11:00 a.m. worship service.



The Last Best Word

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



The last best word is the one that God wants the whole world to hear and know. The Last Best Word is the one that Jesus came to proclaim to all with ears to hear.

You've heard it before. Jesus said, "For God so loved..." Paul's life was changed by this idea. He wrote to a church, "The love of Christ urges us on."

God's love, seen most clearly in the life and teaching of Jesus, urges us to see the world through the eyes of God's love.

When we see the world this way we will begin to discover the power to practice the graciousness of God in our every day lives. When we are able to see people through a grace-filled vision the church will begin to be the community of faith that God calls us to be. Grace is what happens when love is our primary way of seeing in the world.

H. Richard Niebuhr wrote, "The great Christian revolutions come not by the discovery of something that was not known before. They happen when somebody takes radically something that was always there."

That's a huge challenge. It feels overwhelming. Can I really love and see like God wants me to? Sometimes I have a hard time forgiving people I already care about deeply. How can we practice this all the time?

Maybe that's where it begins. When I can learn to forgive those I love most, when we can learn to speak the words of Jesus to each other, we will begin to find the power to speak of grace to our world.

That is the best last word.

Grace and peace to you,

October/November Series: Unstoppable: Following in the Footsteps of Paul

Dr. Glen Miles returns from the church's trip to Greece to present this series beginning Oct. 20. The series follows Paul in his travels through these ancient biblical lands.

Oct. 20 – Part 1: Athens, Acts 17:22-32

Oct. 27 – Part 2: Corinth, 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Nov. 3 – Part 3: Corinth, 1 Corinthians 2:6-16

Nov. 10 – Part 4: Ephesus, Ephesians 5:1-2

Nov. 17 –Part 5: Ephesus, Ephesians 6:10-20

Nov. 24 – Part 6: Thessalonica, 1 Thessalonians 1:2-10

Worship with us!

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

**September Sermon Series
Finding Jesus in Church**

Sept. 29

Part 4: Stand for Something
James 2: 14-17 (The Message)

Oct. 6

World Communion Sunday
The Largest Table in the World
Romans 12:9-21

Oct. 13

Rev. Carla Aday preaching

Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

Virginia Reed Food Drive on October 20

On Sun., Oct. 20, 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."

Soul Mates Begins October 27

If you are recently engaged or recently married, we invite you to participate in Soul Mates. Each class will focus on cultivating your relationship and discussing topics that are relevant to you. Sundays, Oct. 27-Nov. 24, 9:50-10:50 a.m. in the Brides Room (Rm. 116). Contact Lauren Weinhold at laurenw@cccckc.org for more information.

CAYA for ages 23-33

Are you a young adult looking for a way to get connected at church? Join CAYA, our group for young adults ages 23-33. Upcoming events:

Sun., Sept. 29: Join the Yawhose Class for lunch with Glen Miles. We'll share pizza (free will offering) and talk about his current sermon series, which pertains to young adults and the church. Noon in Rm. 304.

Mon., Sept. 30: Social. Meet at 6:30 p.m. at Charlie Hooper's Bar and Grill, 12 W. 63rd St., Kansas City, MO. Half-priced burgers. Look for the red helium balloon.

Sun., Oct. 6: Gather to discuss the month's events: Coffee and breakfast treats provided. Room 207, 10:00-10:45 a.m.

Mon., Oct. 14: Service project – Game night for residents of Newhouse. 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Sun., Oct. 20: Presentation by Chris Howard, "Trials and Tribulations through Music." 10:00-10:45 a.m., Room 207.

Wed., Oct. 30: Social event at the home of Glen and Julie Miles. 7:00 p.m. Chili and cornbread supper provided. Please bring a friend!

2013 Tall Oaks Gala Is October 18

Tall Oaks Conference Center's annual gala fundraiser will be at Arrowhead Stadium on Fri., Oct. 18, 5:30-9:00 p.m. All fans can rally to help by bringing auction donations, making a reservation and coming prepared to make a cash donation.

The event begins with stadium tours at 5:30 p.m. Fellowship time and silent auction begin at 6:00 p.m. Dinner is served at 7:30 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 Lyle Bracken at 913-301-3004 with donation questions. For dinner reservations, contact Ken Mohler at kmohler@swbell.net or 816-444-1553.

Espresso Service Continues into Fall

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

This Sunday, stick around after worship and join Glen and the other clergy in the Parlor for a cup of coffee and fellowship. Dave, the coffee guy, will be back by popular demand several times this fall. Watch for Dave, his cart and his fancy coffee supplies to be here on Oct. 20, Nov. 17 and Dec.

15. He also be making one other special holiday appearance.



Parking Lots Closed Intermittently

During this final phase of construction, the east and south parking lots will be closed at various times for your safety. The affected lot will be roped off during those times.



Building Life Friendships

by Hayley Holt, Interim Youth Director



Last Tuesday afternoon, I spent two hours playing superheroes and building tall towers. I read about Curious George at the zoo and Buzz Lightyear's trip to the moon. A toddler snuggled in my lap as her brother jumped on his new big boy bed. It was the most magical two hours of my week.

What does this have to do with Youth Ministry here at Country Club Christian Church? Everything.

Spending time with these kids is a highlight of my week because they remind me of the purpose of my work here with the youth. Let me explain. When I was in Youth Group here at Country Club Christian Church, I had a tight knit group of friends. They were from different high schools around the city, but we knew we would see each other at church. We have evolved together, which is not something I can say for other social circles I have. I have been to their weddings, held their babies shortly after they were born, and kept in touch across the globe. They have held me up in times of need, and I have never laughed harder than when I am with this group. My hope for our youth is not that they have the same exact experience in Youth Ministry as me, but that we as a church are providing spaces and experiences that develop relationships with depth and the potential to evolve over time.

This starts with showing up. And showing up for a variety of experiences: Sunday School, choir, youth group and outings. This is an exciting time in the life of the church in many ways, but especially for our children, youth and families. There has been a lot of change recently in terms of leadership for these areas, and I'm sure everyone is craving consistency. Our new Minister to Children, Youth, and Families begins her work on Oct. 1 and I could not be more excited. I challenge you, in this time of new beginnings, to reflect on what is consistent already in our church. It's you.

Relationships are developed when consistent people show up. You can build on a friendship week to week when your friend is here week to week. I know this is a lot to ask. Still, I am encouraging our youth to show up. Not for me, or whoever may be in this position in the future, but for the potential of friendships for a lifetime.

Hayley

Kay Barnes Will Be Speaker at Thanksgiving Dinner



The Honorable Kay Barnes, former Kansas City mayor, will speak on "The Gift of Gratitude" at the annual Thanksgiving Dinner celebration. We will gather at 6:30 p.m. in the

Social Hall on Thur., Nov. 21, for a traditional dinner of turkey, dressing and all the trimmings. Watch for more information about tickets.

Collection Connection

We are collecting music CDs and musical instruments for the inmate music program at the Joint Regional Correctional Facility at Fort Leavenworth. All types of musical CDs are needed. Brass, woodwind and string instruments as well as a keyboard and drum set are needed. If donating stringed instruments, they request that new strings be included. Please leave your donations in the Parlor.

Youth News

Spring Break Mission Trip Informational Meeting

Noon, Sun., Sept. 29, Youth Center

All youth in grades 10-12 for the 2013-2014 school year who are interested in participating in a mission trip to Nicaragua over spring break 2014 are invited to attend an informational meeting on Sun., Sept. 29, in the Youth Center. The trip will be Mar. 16-22, 2014.

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. Contact Hayley Holt at hayleyh@cccckc.org for more information.

Chi Rho (6th-8th graders). Sept. 29—No Youth Group.

CYF (9th-12th graders). Sept. 29 – CYF only. Ever wanted to paint like Jackson Pollock? Come get your creative juices flowing with an interactive painting project. 5:30-7:30 p.m., Social Hall.

Oct. 6 – 4:30-6:30 (Note time change!) for all youth. It's our night of service. We will meet at church at 4:30 p.m. to go to Sheffield Place to cookout for the residents and play games with them. We will return for pick up at 6:30 p.m. We will eat a snack on the road to Sheffield House.

Oct. 13 – 5:30-6:00 p.m. Reception for Monica for Youth and Families.

6:00-7:30 p.m. Youth Group. Monica will be sharing her faith journey and lead youth in discussion.

Upcoming Youth Events

Worlds of Fun – Oct. 20. Our annual outing to Worlds of Fun is scheduled for Sun., Oct. 20. Mark your calendars and get ready for fun!

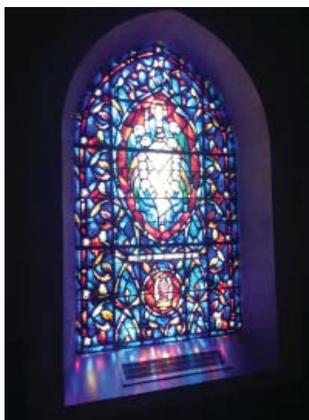
Halloween Party – Oct. 27. We will join Club Kids on Sun., Oct. 27, for a Halloween Party. Costumes are encouraged and parents are invited. 5:30-7:30 p.m.

CYF Retreat – CYF Retreat is tentatively scheduled for Fri., Nov. 15. Keep checking for more information!

Work on Stained Glass Windows Completed

The stained glass window repairs on the Sanctuary and at Combs Chapel are finished. The old covers were removed, the windows cleaned, and new frames and covers were installed. Several pieces of the Sanctuary windows were removed for minor repairs

but have been returned and installed. The difference in the clarity of the windows, both from the inside and viewed from outside is dramatic, as seen in the photos.





Thank You

by Rev. Carla Aday, Senior Associate Minister



I've spent half of my life inside of this congregation. I was only 25 years old when I arrived in Kansas City to serve this great church. In the quarter century that has passed, I've had three offices, three parking spaces and worked for three senior ministers. So much has changed. Ninety-five percent of the staff members who were here on the day I arrived are now gone. The newborns in the nursery have graduated college and begun families of their own in other cities. My young singles have become grandparents. All the typewriters have been replaced with laptops and the once new fax machine is now rarely used.

Over the years my concept of God has also changed. When I arrived here my favorite scripture was "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God." (Micah 6:8) But today my favorite verse is "Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus." I attribute this shift to you. The years I have spent inside these walls and participating in the fabric of this community helped me glimpse God's persistence. Slowly, I learned that God is so much more than an object out there or a concept we discern. God is a living reality revealed in community.

I have watched you care for each other in the most profound, generous, mundane, and tender ways. I have seen you reach out to the people of South Africa, Nicaragua, Independence Avenue, New Orleans and Haiti with courage and compassion. And I have received the radical love you gave to me and my family during our own ups and downs. All of this has given me a glimpse of a God who never lets us go.

Not only do you persist in this generous love for people but you keep pursuing knowledge and wisdom about the holy mystery we name God. In classes, groups, seminars and worship you engage in the search for deeper truth, the kind that shifts the ground underneath us and causes us to live in different ways. Sometimes I am completely amazed at what we have learned together and how you never rest from the quest to learn and grow. This compelling drive enables me to glimpse that Spirit of God that pursues us eternally.

Thank you, not just for being the church, not just for breaking bread and sharing wine, but more than that, thank you for embodying the reality of God.

Carla

Children and Families

Fountains of Faith

People of the Covenant: Abraham

We are people of the covenant – descendants of Abraham by faith. Through the sessions in this rotation, children will learn the covenant still binds us, calls us, demands of us that we worship God and acknowledge the grace and salvation offered to us through God's everlasting love. Sept. 22-Oct. 20, 9:55-10:55 a.m.

Children's Choir to Sing

Sun., Sept. 29, 11:00 a.m.

The Children's Choir will sing at the 11:00 a.m. service on Sun., Sept. 29. The children will move from their classrooms to the choir room at 10:40 a.m. and then to the sanctuary to practice the song. The choir will sit in the front row for the start of the service. After the children sing, they will be dismissed to sit with their parents.

Next Club Kids Is October 13

The next Club Kids event will be Sun., Oct. 13. All 3rd-5th graders are invited to come for fellowship, fun and food from 5:30 -7:30 p.m. Sunday evening. Community building games and activities will be the focus of this informal and fun gathering. We will begin with dinner at 5:30 p.m. in the Social Hall.

There is no Club Kids on Sept. 29 or Oct. 6. We will meet on Sun., Oct. 13 and 27, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Kansas City, MO
Permit No. 1498



6101 Ward Parkway
Kansas City, MO 64113

Return Service Requested

Our Church Family

Congratulations

TESSA MEINZER and ZACH WEIGEL were united in marriage on Sept. 21 in the Sanctuary. Dr. Miles officiated.

Sympathy

BENEDICT SIGFUSSON passed away on Sept. 17. He is survived by his daughter Karen (Greg) Bates. His service will be Sept. 28 in Chicago, IL.

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

The Country Club Christian: Copy must reach this office by Monday ten days prior to publication. Editor: Lara Schopp, laras@cccckc.org

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