



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.*

## It's All About Community

### Lunch and Learn, November 11

The Brookside, Waldo, and Southtown neighborhoods boast many urban amenities, but like every neighborhood they face challenges. What role do Country Club Christian Church and its members play in nurturing relationships and stabilizing our neighborhood?



Brookside Associations, will discuss past, present and future issues and how neighbors are working together to keep our community a great place to live, work and do business. 11:30 a.m. in the Social Hall. \$10 includes lunch.

Join us Tues., Nov. 11, as Marti Lee, Executive Director of the Southtown Council, Waldo, and

Everyone welcome. RSVP to Mary Margaret House at [marymargareth@cccckc.org](mailto:marymargareth@cccckc.org) or 816-333-4917.

### Dr. Micah Kubic Will Speak at Thanksgiving Dinner

Dr. Micah Kubic, Director of Planning, Development, and Evaluation at the Full Employment Council in Kansas City, MO, and author, will speak at our annual Thanksgiving Dinner celebration on Thur., Nov. 20. His talk is entitled "The Place Where You Are Standing Is Holy."



Also, The Della Lamb Children's Choir will perform, singing songs of thanksgiving and praise.

We will gather at 6:30 p.m. in the Social Hall for a traditional dinner of turkey, dressing and all the trimmings. Cost is \$17 per person, \$8 per child. Sign up in the Parlor on Nov. 9 and 16 or RSVP to Mary Margaret House at 816-333-4917 or [marymargareth@cccckc.org](mailto:marymargareth@cccckc.org). Child care is available by reservation.



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## Sign Up for 2015 Christian Community Camp

Sign up beginning Sun., Nov. 9, for a glorious week at the YMCA of the Rockies near Estes Park, CO. The 2015 camp will be Aug. 1-8. 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.



For more information, stop by the parlor on Sun., Nov. 9, from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. to pick up a brochure or ask questions. A registration form and a \$250 non-refundable deposit will hold your place. Cost is \$1,650 for a private room (\$1,550 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. Or contact Rev. Carla Aday at [carlaa@cccckc.org](mailto:carlaa@cccckc.org) or 816-333-4917.

## Staff Reorganization

The position of Business Administrator has been phased out at the church. As a result, John Clemmer's employment has ended. John held the position through the construction project and capital campaign. John was instrumental in overseeing the financial management of the project, in bringing other noticeable improvements to the church, and in handling other church business. We will miss John and wish him the very best in his next endeavor! John's administrative responsibilities will, in the interim, be placed under the direction of Carla Aday and Glen Miles. The Personnel Committee is working with the Senior Minister on a staffing plan to be put in place after the new year.

## Branding Project Update

*By Mary McClure, Congregational Board Chair*

Thanks to all of you who have shared your thoughts on the branding project through the April Town Hall and the worksheets you completed in September.

We received a wide range of input and opinions that we used to design a survey we are conducting in nearby zip codes. This online survey gathers data on the awareness and perception of our church as well as feedback on new name possibilities in comparison with our existing name. We'll also learn what is important to those visiting a church, including the influence of a church name in deciding to visit.

The Branding Task Force will share what we've learned in a Town Hall meeting early next year. Whatever the outcome, we will have questioned and listened as a community. We will have learned a great deal about who we are as a church and how we can best prepare for our second century of ministry. Thank you for your help in developing that understanding.

## 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. Led by Phil and Patty Love. Limit 14 people. Sun., Nov. 16, 6:00 p.m. Call Mary Margaret House at 816-333-4917 for movie titles or to sign up.



# A Journey without Maps

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



“Faith is a journey without maps.”<sup>1</sup> It is something many desire to have and to hold yet it is elusive, difficult to pin down. Finding our way to faith is sometimes hard to do.

I wish that wasn’t true. I’d like it to be easier but on the other hand maybe it’s not as complex as we think. Marcus Borg says in his book *The Heart of Christianity* that “being a Christian involves us in an unending conversation with the Bible, the Christian tradition, and each other.”

According to Luke’s Gospel, one day Jesus was in a conversation with his disciples when he said, “If you had faith...” His words imply, “If you had faith, and of course you all do, then you would be able to do great things.” He is not judging them, he is encouraging them. He is saying, “YOU HAVE FAITH!” You don’t need a map for this life’s journey because, through your faith, even if it is just a little, it is more than enough and it will help you find the way.

This is an indirect invitation from Jesus to us to do something with our lives. Jesus wants us to see that we already have the resources within us to do wonderful things for the church, for each other, for God. A faith based on a relationship is one that can grow with even the tiniest bit of conviction. The writer of the letter to the Hebrews said, “Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”

Do you remember that scene in Acts 1 when Jesus ascends into heaven? The disciples are still clueless in Canaan. They are still waiting for Jesus to “restore the kingdom to Israel.” Jesus needs to leave so they can grow up, so they can learn to trust in their faith and their gifts, and move forward toward the life that God has blessed them with. Jesus is leaving them for their own good. If Jesus were to stay, we would be tempted to make him, as my buddy Dick Wing likes to say, “Our divine errand boy!”

Martin Luther King said, “We must accept finite disappointment, but we must never lose infinite hope. The small faith we already possess can put us in touch with the infinite power of God for nothing is impossible with God.”

If you have faith, and you do, you can live a life worth living. It is a journey without maps because we already know the way.

Grace and peace to you,

<sup>1</sup> by Frederick Buechner

## Save the Date: The Holy Land – In the Footsteps of Jesus

Join Glen and Julie Miles, Lauren Weinhold and Scott Fuller as they travel to the Holy Land Oct. 28-Nov. 6, 2015. Enjoy great food, comprehensive sightseeing and memorable fellowship. Stops include Haifa, Tiberias, Nazareth, Bethlehem and Jerusalem. Watch for details on registering for the trip.

## Worship with us!

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

**Series**

**Let It Be: Trusting in the Way, the Truth and the Life of God**

**Nov. 9**

Part 5: Learn to Love the Truth  
*Ephesians 4: 25-32*

**Nov. 16**

Part 6: Pray About Everything  
*Philippians 4:4-9*

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# Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

## Pathways to Learning: When Faith Meets Politics



**Nov. 9** – The Honorable Kay Barnes, former Kansas City mayor.

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.

## November Collection Connection: Children's Books

Please donate used or new children's books on any topic (fiction or non-fiction) for 1st through 5th graders. The books will help create a library at the Northeast Community Center.

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## Mission Team Opportunities

We will be sending a mission team to Moore, OK, on Apr. 19-24, 2015, to assist in tornado recovery and rebuilding efforts. A tornado devastated Moore and adjacent areas on May 20, 2013. Stay tuned for further information about how to sign up for the team.

If you are interested in becoming a part of the Country Club Christian Church Mission Trip Team that works to establish and maintain partnerships to provide mission teams regionally, nationally, and internationally, please contact Betsy Wilson at betcwilsonkc@yahoo.com.

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## The Well Book Corner

Do you need books for your children or grandchildren? Do you need a Bible to use in your Bible study? Would you like to read a book mentioned in a sermon or a minister's column in *The Christian*? Then visit The Well, our book and gift store on the ground floor of the church.



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](http://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.

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## 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 Joe Walker at 816-333-4917 or [joew@cccckc.org](mailto:joew@cccckc.org) for more information.





## Thank You

By John Clemmer, Business Administrator



Did you see the church exterior when it was lit with the blue lights for the Royals? I hope you did. It was quite spectacular and exciting to see the city so enthusiastic about the Royals. I would like to thank the volunteers who made this happen. If you missed it, there are pictures of the building on the church's Facebook page.

I also hope you have seen the Social Hall in the last week or so. New carpet was installed and it looks marvelous. In addition, at the entrance we installed a marble composite. This really sets off the room. We also installed the marble composite in the hallway leading to the stairs that go up to the south entrance. The carpet was sorely needed and is a great improvement to our campus. We certainly appreciate the efforts of everybody who made this happen.

This Sunday will be my last day in my capacity as Business Administrator for the church. I have certainly appreciated the opportunity to a part of Country Club Christian Church. I am grateful to all the staff members who tirelessly work on behalf of the church and its mission.

I am especially indebted to all the volunteers whose assistance was so valuable, whether it was serving on a committee, being on the counting team, working on Grace at Work, or any of the countless other ways folks help out. I would be remiss if I did not mention Greg Lear and Dan Jensen and all their help with the capital campaign and project. Their efforts have been extraordinary. I am extremely proud of the renovation project. Particularly noteworthy is the quality workmanship and efforts that produced such a beautiful finished building and the fact that the project was completed under budget. Certainly the generosity of everybody who contributed to the project cannot be overlooked.

The building is beautiful after the renovations no doubt – but most importantly, I believe, is the new vitality it has injected into the congregation. The people, programs and ministries are the real beauty of Country Club Christian Church. I have no doubt the next 93 years will be quite remarkable. God bless.

## New Members Joined Oct. 26



Sydney Sorkin & Chris Niedner  
Hosts: Phil & Patty Love

### Virginia Reed Food Drive

We have three ways to share the bounty with the hungry in our community:

1. Bring canned goods to our donation points in the parlor and the chapel, and at the east door, north door, south door anytime you come to church.
2. Make a financial contribution to the Virginia Reed Food Drive on the Harvesters Community Food Network website ([christianchurch.harvestersvfd.org](http://christianchurch.harvestersvfd.org)). The next food drive is Nov. 16.
3. Make a financial contribution to the church and mark your check or giving envelope "food drive." You may place these gifts in the offering plate during worship.

Your gifts support the five area food pantries that our church supports: Community Christian Church, Alta Vista Christian Church, First Christian Church, Della Lamb Community Services and Cross-Lines Community Outreach.

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## Upcoming Student Events

### Visiting Communion Training

We are offering a training session so that more of our high school age students can be a part of this dynamic spiritual exchange by serving in our Visiting Communion ministry. This collaboration with our Elders and Deacons, Youth and Student Ministry, and Congregational Care will prepare students to serve alongside adults visiting our sick and homebound members. These hours can fulfill school, organization or scholarship requirements. The interactive sessions is set for Sun., Nov. 9, 10:00 a.m., during Sunday School. Interested students may join Rev. Joe Walker at a Vespers Service at Foxwood Springs on Sunday evening, Dec. 28. It will be great if we have a couple of young people to be a part of that prayer. To RSVP for either session, call Rev. Joe Walker, 816-333-4917 ext. 224.



### Middle School Lock-in

**Nov. 14-15** – 7:00 p.m.-7:00 a.m. Cost is \$20 per person. If you need a scholarship or would like to help as a chaperone, please contact Allie at [alliec@cccckc.org](mailto:alliec@cccckc.org). Please RSVP by Nov. 9 to Allie.

### Pastors' Class Information Meeting

**Sun., Nov. 16**, 12:15 p.m. Join us at this informational session for youth interested in Pastors' Class and their parents. Youth Center (Rm. 205).

### Student Group

**Nov. 9** – 5:00-7:00 p.m., Social Hall.

**Sun., Nov. 16** – No Student Group.

**Sun., Nov. 23 – Movie Night.** 5:00-7:00 p.m. Middle and high school students please meet in the Youth Center (Rm. 205) at 5:00 p.m. for pizza and popcorn. We will watch "The Fault in Our Stars." Please be here promptly at 5:00 p.m. to allow enough time to watch the movie.

**Sun., Nov. 30** - No Student Group. Happy Thanksgiving!

### 6th Grade Ice Cream Sundaes

**Sun., Nov. 9 - 4:00-5:00 p.m.** You scream, I scream, we all scream for ice cream! 6th grade students please meet in the Social Hall for ice cream sundaes.

### Student Poinsettia Sale

Purchase a poinsettia from Country Club Christian Church youth Sun., Nov. 9, 16, 23 and 30 in the parlor. Full payment must be received with all orders. Plants will be available for pick up from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. on Sat., Dec. 6, and Sun., Dec. 7, at the church. The poinsettias cost \$13 for a 6-inch plant, \$19 for an 8-inch plant, and \$25 for a 10-inch plant. Proceeds benefit youth mission trip scholarship fund.

### Pumpkin Pies for Micah Ministry

Each year, Micah Ministry at Independence Boulevard Christian Church serves Thanksgiving dinner to hundreds of hungry individuals. Help make this dinner a success by baking a pumpkin pie to go along with all the traditional fixings that will be served. Pies need to be dropped off at the church kitchen on Nov. 23. We need approximately 100 pies as we will serve 600 people. If you don't want to make a pie, you can donate money that will be used to buy pies from Costco. Cost is \$5.99 each. Place your contribution in the collection plate with "Micah Pumpkin Pies" in the memo line.



## Nice to Meet You! 10 Things About You

by Dr. Meredith Holladay, Minister of Member Development



If you remember, soon after I arrived on staff at Country Club Christian Church, I introduced myself in the newsletter via a list of things about me. As I write this, it has officially been three months on the job. Here are some things I've learned about you – so far.

1. You are not afraid to introduce yourselves.
2. You are very forgiving. Thank you for helping me learn names and faces as I get to know more and more of you each week.
3. You are a friendly bunch of people. I have only been around a few months, but already I feel I have been welcomed as part of the family.
4. This church has a major sweet tooth. Did you know that each week groups provide 35 dozen cookies? That's 420 cookies each week. When I first read that number, I thought, "There's no way we go through that many cookies." But we do. (Let me know if you'd like to help provide them!)
5. Speaking of food, you sure do serve a lot of it. This week I worked with several members of CAYA (one of our young adult groups) to cook 50 pounds of beef to be served at Cross-Lines. That's a lot of beef.
6. You love to learn. I am impressed with the commitment to the various learning and formation opportunities offered - Pathways to Learning, Glen's Bible Study, Faithbook. It encourages me to see so many people committed to their spiritual growth and formation.
7. The best coffee is not found in the office during the week. Not at all. However, the best coffee happens on Sunday morning – or in Glen's office on a weekday afternoon. (If you're lucky.)
8. Your church staff loves what they do. I look forward to being in the office to work alongside clergy and staff who are passionate about the work that needs to be done to make this church a more vibrant and loving representative of the Kingdom of God.
9. You are a busy, busy people. It takes a lot of time and effort to serve, to worship, to learn, to be in community with one another. I am impressed with the commitment you have. I pray that we will all be mindful of the reason we give so much of our time and energy.
10. You love your community. How much fun was October? We dedicated our building – and then we had reason to light the building with blue lights at night! It is a special thing to be part of a church that loves their city. I hope we continue to work to find ways to invest and give back to the community and neighborhoods.

*Meredith*

## Children and Families

### Club Kids

**Sun., Nov. 9** – 5:00-7:00 p.m., Social Hall.

**Sun., Nov. 16** – 5:00-7:00 p.m., Social Hall.

### Advent in Advance

**Sun., Nov. 23, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

Make plans to attend this free Advent workshop for children birth through 5th grade in the Social Hall. Enjoy a light lunch and make-n-take session to prepare your family and home for the Advent season. You can make a wood block nativity set (start or add to yours), a cookies for Santa keepsake plate, and other fun activities to help us celebrate Advent.

### Sunday School Apps

Parents please check out the new *Grow, Proclaim, Serve!* app to help you reinforce our Sunday lessons.

- For iPhones, go to <http://tinyurl.com/curriculum-apple> to download the app.
- For Android phones, go to <http://tinyurl.com/curriculum-android>.

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. Go to <http://www.growproclaimserve.com/parents.html> to learn more about the curriculum.

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# Our Church Family

## In Sympathy

Our prayers and condolences are with the families and friends of:

**Thomas Baker**

**Jack Coffey**

## Memorials

**Joan James**

Ken & Rosemary Young

**Dorothy Ray**

Norma Tilton

**Harvey Ray**

Bill, Jan & Curt Daniels

John & Martha Jane Stewart

Norma Tilton

## PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. R. Glen Miles  
Senior Minister

Mr. John D. Clemmer  
Business Administrator

Rev. Carla Aday  
Senior Associate  
Minister

Ms. Allie Cobb  
Director of Student  
Ministries

Rev. David Diebold  
Minister of Music

Ms. Lindsay Howes  
Director of Children's  
Ministries

Dr. Meredith Holladay  
Minister of Member  
Development

Ms. Lisa McCleish  
Director of Early  
Childhood Programs

Rev. Monica Lewis  
Minister to Children,  
Students and Families

Mr. Michael Patch  
Director of Children's  
and Youth Choirs

Rev. Joe Walker  
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