

# CHRISTIAN

Strength for the Journey. Grace for the Soul.

## INSIDE

Finding Our Way to Easter  
By Glen Miles  
≈≈≈  
page 3

Tell Me a Story  
by Lara Schopp  
≈≈≈  
page 5

Way More Similar  
by Joe Walker  
≈≈≈  
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.*

## Celebrate Easter Sunday – March 27

Celebrate the miracle of Easter at Country Club Christian Church. Dr. Glen Miles preaching, “The End is the Beginning,” John 20:1-18. No Sunday School classes. Child care available for all services.

### Special Service Times

**8:00 a.m.** – Worship in the Sanctuary, featuring jazz vocalist Bukeka Shoals.

**9:30 and 11:00 a.m.** – Worship in the Sanctuary, led by our clergy, the Chancel Choir and the Kansas City Brass.

### Complimentary Easter Breakfast

**7:30-8:00 a.m.** continental breakfast, Parlor

**8:30-9:30 a.m.** – hot breakfast, Social Hall

## Pathways to Learning: Everybody Hurts ... Sometimes



We all experience pain in our lives – physical, emotional, mental. Sometimes it feels excruciating, but most often, we deal with more “ordinary” pain – hurt feelings, a cold, feeling lonely.

We’ll explore the realities of pain in our culture, and learn about how we can work through our pain and be a healing and helpful presence for others.

**Sun., Apr. 10 – Politics of Pain.** Myra Christopher, Center for Practical Bioethics

**Sun., Apr. 17 – Being Helpful: When Children Hurt.** Dr. Rochelle Harris, Clinical

*continued on page 2*

## Grace at Work Is April 16

Opportunities for young families to serve together and a new community partner are among the exciting news as we prepare for our Grace at Work morning on Sat., Apr. 16. Sign up in the parlor on Sunday.



Students in 1st-5th grade and their families are invited to help clean kitchens and prepare garden and flower beds at Sheffield Place, a residence for homeless mothers and their children. Middle school and high school students will volunteer at reStart, sorting donated items and organizing the food pantry. reStart is the only shelter for homeless teens in Greater Kansas City. The

*continued on page 2*



---

## Via Spiritual Renewal Retreat Set for April

### For Men – Apr. 1-3 at Tall Oaks Conference Center

Glen Miles and Joe Walker will lead this retreat as you relax, renew and reconnect. Cost is \$125, which includes lodging for two nights and all meals and program materials. Limited to 75 participants.



This retreat is the initial session of Country Club Christian Church's new Via spiritual renewal retreats for men and women. Each year there will be a men's retreat in the spring and a women's retreat in the fall (Oct. 21-23, 2016). Life gets busy and it is easy to drift away from the journey of faith. The retreats are designed to build friendships, provide personal reflection time, and have fun while also reconnecting with the Spirit of God. Participants will learn new forms of prayer and spiritual patterns, enjoy the beauty of nature, and have time to relax and play. Register online at <http://tinyurl.com/cccc-retreat> or pick up a form in the Parlor and return it to Mary Margaret House.

## Faith Pub Begins April 7 for Men

Following Via, a new men's ministry called FaithPub will be offered beginning Thur., Apr. 7, at 7:00 p.m. Dr. Glen Miles will lead this gathering each week in a private room at The Well (7421 Broadway St., Kansas City, MO), with a focus on spiritual reflection and biblical study. Participants can enjoy a beverage, appetizer or light meal, and conversation with other men looking for sacred conversations around stuff that matters. No reservation necessary; just show up with an open mind and a willing heart.

## Spring Program and 5th Grade Celebration

### Sun., Apr. 24, 12:15 p.m., Social Hall

Save the date for *The Big Fish: Jonah's Whale Of A Tale*, an undersea "film noir" detective investigation of Jonah's mysterious disappearance into the belly of the whale. ... think trench coats, dark sunglasses, dark and stormy nights, and a hint of SpongeBob. This musical is sure to have everyone swimming with joy!



ALL children will be learning songs in Sunday School and encouraged to participate in the program!

Important Rehearsal Dates:

Apr. 17 – 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Social Hall

Apr. 23 – 10:00-11:30 a.m., Social Hall

## Pathways, *continued from page 1*

Psychologist with Children's Mercy; Julia Harkleroad, LMFT Licensed Play Therapist; Dr. Allison Hettinger, pediatrician (and church member).

### Sun., Apr. 24 – The Compassionate Response – panel of chaplains.

Rev. Beth Sonnevile, chaplain at Children's Mercy Hospital; Rev. Lee Franklin, chaplain at North Kansas City Hospital; Rev. Chuck Murphy, Chaplain, Armour Oaks Senior Living. This session will be in the sanctuary.

10:00 a.m. Everyone welcome.

## Grace at Work, *continued from page 1*

Harvesters Warehouse will welcome volunteers 8 years and older with parental supervision. Volunteers will help sort food donations received from the community.

New to partner sites is Jerusalem Farm in the Historic Northeast. The farm focuses on sustainable gardening projects and light home repair so that seniors and low-income families can remain in their homes.

Other project sites include: Hartman Elementary, Cross-Lines Community Outreach, Grace United, Della Lamb, Harvesters (at church), Green Team (at church), and deep cleaning our Combs Chapel. We also need volunteers to help prepare and serve breakfast for our work crews on Apr. 16.

On-line registration and complete information about each project will be available soon. For more information, you can contact Ryan and Quinn at [graceatwork@cccckc.org](mailto:graceatwork@cccckc.org).



# Finding Our Way to Easter

Dr. R. Glen Miles



The singular truth that guides our Easter celebrations is this: if there is no death there can be no resurrection. Too often we want to skip Good Friday, making our way to the bunnies and the flowers and the chocolate without facing the ugliness of that terrible day. When we do that we miss Easter, we miss the power of the story to change us, to take the worst in your life and mine and transform it into something new and wonderful.

This truth guides us in our life and our actions. God's love carries us through death by the power of grace. How can we remember this? We need to stay close to the cross.

Pastors and spiritual directors who help people live their faith will remind them that when we are standing in the shadow of the cross it is much harder to be ungracious and unkind to others. It is hard to refuse to forgive others when we stand in front of the cross and hear Jesus say, "Forgive them..."

This promise tells us that the resurrection can transform the ugliest part of us and turn it into something new. Easter faith can take whatever is dead in you and bring it back to life. Resurrection has the power to transform Hell and turn it into a sanctuary where there is grace for the soul.

Even Hell cannot stop the power of God's amazing grace. A common question in the first 100 years of the church was this, "Where was Jesus during the days between his crucifixion and his resurrection?" He was in Hell preaching to the souls there.

Peter is the one who tells us this in his letter at the end of the New Testament. Jesus descended into Hell and preached to the psuches there. Psuche is the Greek word for souls. Jesus was in Hell preaching to the souls there.

This story tells us the church, since its earliest days, has proclaimed there is no place, there is no corner of creation, not even Hades where God has not gone. There are no forgotten people, no overlooked valleys or mountains.

Jesus has gone before us, he has faced death and suffering, loneliness and abandonment. He has gone to Hell and will go again and again, to bring us, all of us, to the gracious presence of God.

Grace and peace to you,

## Congregational Meeting

Join us on Sun., Apr. 17 at 12:15 p.m. in the Social Hall for a quarterly congregational meeting. Everyone welcome.

## Worship with us!

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

**Easter Sunday, Mar. 27  
8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.**

The End is the Beginning  
John 20: 1-18

**April 3**  
Rev. Carla Aday preaching

**Apr. 10**  
Help, I Need Somebody!  
*Psalm 30*

---

# Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

## April Collection Connection: Jeans and Underwear for Micah

In April we are collection men's and women's jeans and underwear for Micah Ministry. Jeans are especially important to those who are either working or living outside. Sometimes they are a requirement for employment. The greatest need is for the smaller and larger sizes. For example: men's waist sizes smaller than 36 and larger than 40; women's sizes smaller than 10 and larger than 18. Although people can survive without underwear...who wants to? Frequently Micah has no underwear to hand out. Your donations are needed during this Collection Connection and would be accepted any-time during the year.



## Virginia Reed Food Drive

The next food drive is Sun., Apr. 17. This month we are particularly collecting peanut butter, any size.

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 doors any time. Please do not bring anything in a glass container. Cans, boxes and plastic containers all work well and are not accidentally broken as easily as glass.
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)). We will have a computer in the parlor on Apr. 17 for you to make your online contribution.
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.

---

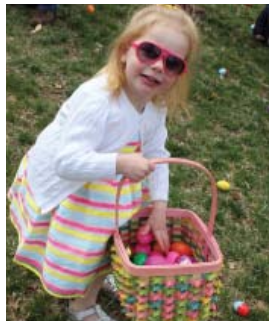
## Ministry Fair on Sun., Apr. 17

**Parlor from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

Stop by the parlor to tour the various booths to sign up to serve with your time and talent in the church and community.

---

# Images of Easter Egg Hunt on March 20







## Tell Me a Story

By Lara Schopp, Director of Communications



In the summer of 2010, a man named Brandon set out to photograph 10,000 New Yorkers for a blog. He thought it would be cool to plot their photos on a map. But when he started this experiment, a curious thing happened. As he'd chat with each stranger whose photo he was taking, he realized they all had stories to tell. He started including snippets of their conversations alongside their photos on his blog, and then an amazing thing happened.

Nearly six years later, Brandon has taken thousands of photos and shared thousands of stories through his blog, Humans of New York (HONY) and its companion social media sites. He has traveled the world telling the stories of people in places like Iran, Boston (after the 2013 marathon bombing), and parts of Europe where migrants and refugees are seeking safe haven from their war-torn homelands. He has spearheaded campaigns that have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to support philanthropic endeavors associated with individuals he has met along his adventures.

With more than 8 million followers, Brandon has created something of a cultural phenomenon. And it all started with telling simple stories, giving voices to random people throughout the world.

We all love a good story. We humans use narrative to both express ourselves and identify with others. Stories help illustrate who we are, where we come from, what we believe, and so much more.

One of my goals this year in providing effective communication for the church is to tell better stories. We have a tendency to get caught up in the who, what, when and where of things. Maybe we don't spend enough time in the why?

With credit to Brandon and HONY, we've started borrowing his concept to tell you a little more about the humans of Country Club Christian Church. During the season of Lent, you may have noticed that on the church's Facebook page we featured photos of our Pastors' Class students and, in their own words, their stories about what their faith means to them. We also featured some of their adult mentors who told us what it meant to stand with our students during this important time.

I hope you saw and enjoyed these photos and stories. We have more planned; the next series will feature our high school students as they prepare for their Nicaragua mission trip. My goal is that through these personal narratives, we will all enjoy a richer understanding of this faith community we share.

Lara

## Faith and Grief, New Luncheon

Grief doesn't own a watch.

The loss of a loved one or friend may have been very recent and your grief may be very immediate and intense. Or you may have lost someone years ago and an anniversary or similar event has reawakened that pain.

Our new Faith and Grief Lunch Ministry offers a safe place for those who grieve to remember, listen, and pray together. Participants gather around tables for a simple box lunch and sharing guided by a trained facilitator. You may attend one time or for as long as you find the lunch helpful. The meal begins at noon and ends promptly at 1:00 p.m., making it accessible for those who work. Lunches are offered the first Tuesday of every month beginning Apr. 5. Everyone is welcome – those of all faiths as well as those who profess no spiritual beliefs. The lunch is free, provided by the sponsoring churches. A free will offering basket is available for those who wish to support this ministry.

The ministry is a collaboration of five churches – St. Andrew's Episcopal, St. John's United Methodist, Second Presbyterian, Village Presbyterian, and Country Club. Lunches are hosted at Village Presbyterian Church, 6641 Mission Road, Prairie Village.

For information, contact Rev. Joe Walker, [joew@cccckc.org](mailto:joew@cccckc.org).

To register, call 469-251-9612 or click the link at:

<http://tinyurl.com/faith-grief-lunch>

# Pastors' Class 2016

## Duncan Lewis Bennett



Son of Daron and Lori Bennett  
Mentor: Glenn Crocker

## Grant Harrison Bough



Son of Steve and Andrea Bough  
Mentor: Gabe Kranz

## Elizabeth Esther Crocker



Daughter of Glenn and Tepring Crocker  
Mentor: Amanda Kranz

## Olivia H. Keller



Daughter of Jeff and Laura Keller  
Mentor: Kathy McDandel

## Breck William McGuire



Son of Jake and Tina McGuire  
Mentor: Steve Bough

## Harper May Moothart



Daughter of Bruce and Kelly Moothart  
Mentor: Kristin Jamour

## Max Evan Patterson



Son of Evan and Kristin Patterson  
Mentor: Stuart Hoffman

## Caroline Grace Schopp



Daughter of Jake and Lara Schopp  
Mentor: Lauren Weinhold



Pastors' Class participants standing in front of their mentors.  
Back: Monica Lewis, Steve Bough, Stuart Hoffman, Glenn Crocker, Gabe Kranz, Lauren Weinhold, Kristin Jamour, Kathy McDandel, Amanda Kranz, Glen Miles  
Front: Breck McGuire, Max Patterson, Duncan Bennett, Grant Bough, Caroline Schopp, Harper Moothart, Olivia Keller, Elizabeth Crocker

# Student Events

## Reception for New Staff

April 3, 9:55-10:55 a.m. All families and students are invited to the Youth Center (Rm. 205) to welcome Rev. Chuck Pickrel, new Director of Student Ministries, and Elizabeth Pfalzgraf, now Assistant Director of Children and Student Ministries.

## PowerPlay for Students Grades 9-12

April 3, noon-3:00 p.m. at PowerPlay Family Entertainment Center. Bring \$20 for food and fun. Meet at church.

## Middle School Bowling Grades 6-8

Apr. 10, noon-3:00 p.m., Ward Parkway Lanes. Meet at church to ride together. Bring \$10.

## Pastors' Class Reunion Breakfast

Sun., May 1, 9:55-10:55 a.m. in Room 202 - For Faith Mentors and students who participated in Pastors' Class 2010-2016.

## Middle School Mission Trip (Grades 6-8)

June 17-19, 2016. Middle School students will engage in mission in Northeast Kansas City in cooperation with Country Club Christian Church's PartNERship. This will be an opportunity to learn about the needs of our own city, build memories and lasting relationships with other students, and invest in our community. They will learn about the Northeast's rich cultural diversity, share meals at small area restaurants, and fin-



## Way More Similar

by Rev. Joe Walker, Minister of Congregational Care



“They are way more similar to us than different.”

Lucy Lehoczky’s observation from her 2013 mission in Nicaragua caught my ear; it was almost verbatim the journal entry I had made for this column. Lucy and Monica Lewis and I were having coffee at The Roasterie, talking about Lucy’s experiences on our student mission in 2013 and planning for her participation as an adult mentor for this summer’s trip.

I asked Lucy to say a little more about what she meant. “The trip to Nicaragua showed me,” Lucy continued,

“that even though our environments, income levels, or languages are different, we have many, many more similarities than we do differences. I think it’s important to recognize this, because it helps to humanize others, whether they are in Colorado, Nicaragua or Syria.”

Exactly. When we spend time with one another, we know in our hearts that we are one human family. That leads to a more immediate and intimate concern for what happens to each other. In turn, that influences our daily decisions (great and small) toward the more compassionate and inclusive choices available. Jesus called that trajectory, “The Way.”

So what did that blooming compassion mean for Lucy? “It was during my trip to Nicaragua,” Lucy explained, “that I fell in love with the Spanish-speaking developing country. After my visit to Nicaragua, I knew that I wanted to study abroad in a Spanish-speaking developing country in Central or South America. After Nicaragua and Peru, I now want to work in a Spanish-speaking developing country as a doctor.”

It seems more than fair to say that Lucy’s mission – at least in some part – helped her discover her vocational path. In the corporate world, that cause and effect is known as “productivity.” In organizational language, it is an “outcome.” In church, we recognize this as a “Call,” a response to the Spirit’s prompting and a blessing for which we can all be profoundly grateful.

God willing, in 2019 we may be back at The Roasterie with one of the students from this summer’s Nicaragua Mission, hearing about how the trip helped her/him discover their Call.

Joe



Lucy Lehoczky with a friend during our 2013 Student Nicaragua Mission.

## Children and Families

### Club Kids (3rd-5th Grade)

Apr. 2-3 – Overnight at Kansas City Zoo.  
May 1 – Foot Golf/End of Year Party.

### Kansas City Zoo Overnight

Sat., Apr. 2–Sun., Apr. 3

All 3rd-5th graders are invited to join us for an overnight in the “wild.” We will participate in an after-hours program at the Kansas City Zoo then spend the night in the Polar Bear Pavilion. We will conclude our program with a brief Sunday morning worship time. Sign up in the Parlor on Sunday.

### Family Worship Night

Sun., May 31, 4:30-6:00 p.m.

A worship experience for the entire family. Free dinner provided. Pray with your family. Worship with your family. Sing with your family. Be active with your family. Serve the world with your family. Social Hall.

### MOPS Group

Mothers of Preschoolers (birth-K) meets the second Wednesday of each month from 9:00-11:00 a.m. in the Social Hall. The next meeting is Apr. 13. For more information on MOPs, check out [www.mops.org](http://www.mops.org).

### Sunday School

Deep Blue curriculum is inspired by the verse, “In the depths of who I am, I rejoice in God my Savior”. (Luke 1:47 CEB). The children will discover what it means to be a disciple of Christ today through science experiments, art and crafts, animated videos and active games; making the Bible stories, characters and verses part of their lives. Parents, please check out the site, [www.deepbluekids.com](http://www.deepbluekids.com).

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 Sympathy

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

**Ruby Jane Scott**

## Congratulations

Congratulations to these families on the birth of:

**Charles Travis Holt**, born to Travis and Kaitlin Holt. Grandparents are Lesley and Peter Holt.

### PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. R. Glen Miles Senior Minister	Dr. Dina Pannabecker Evans Co-interim Director of Music
Rev. Carla Aday Executive Minister	Ms. Lindsay Howes Director of Children's Ministries
Dr. Meredith Holladay Minister of Spiritual Formation	Ms. Sally Huggins Assistant Director of Communiations
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. Jason Ashley Director of Building and Grounds	Ms. Elizabeth Pfalzgraf Assistant Director of Children and Student Ministries
Ms. Rachel Clement Director of Finance	Ms. Lara Schopp Director of Communications
Mr. Paul Cutelli Director of Technology and Administrative Services	Dr. Paul Tucker Co-interim Director of Music

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

816-333-4917 fax: 816-333-7538  
email: [office@cccckc.org](mailto:office@cccckc.org) website: [www.cccckc.org](http://www.cccckc.org)