



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.

Fellowship and Small Group Opportunities

Both ongoing and short-term groups are forming. All are open to everyone. To register or for information about a specific class, please contact Anne Haraughty at anneh@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917.

Bible Study, Meditation and Prayer

Disciple Bible Study Fast Track – Study the Old and New Testament over 24 weeks on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the leaders’ homes starting Sept. 21. No prerequisites, but weekly homework is assigned. Led by Lesley Holt and Jennifer Austenfeld.

Faithbook – Women exploring scripture and forming friendships. Come and go as your schedule permits on either Tuesday from 7:00-8:00 p.m. or Wednesday from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Youth Center. Led by Carla Aday. Fall session begins Sept. 20/21 and concludes Nov. 15/16. Topics: Camino – the journey with God; Religion and Politics; What we talk about when

we talk about God. Winter/Spring begins Jan. 3/4 and concludes Apr. 4/5. Topics: Jesus and Muhammad – Let’s Talk; Women in the Gospels; Paul’s Invitation.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study – Study of Isaiah, led by Joe Walker. Everyone is welcome. Wednesday mornings beginning Sept. 14 from 9:30-10:30 a.m. in Room 302. No pre-requisite. Textbook: \$10.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study – Study of the Prophets, led by Joe Walker. Everyone is welcome. Meets first and third Wednesdays evenings from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in Room 202 beginning Sept. 21. No pre-requisite. Textbook: \$25.

Meditation – Meditation is offered in our Chapel ongoing Wednesdays at noon. Everyone is welcome. The session begins with a brief introduction “How to Meditate” that leads into five minutes of silent meditation. A five-minute period of facilitated reflection on meditation fol-

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Festival Sunday is September 11

Join us for worship, a picnic lunch on the lawn from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., with hamburgers and hot dogs, activities and fellowship. Lunch is \$8/person, maximum of \$30/family. Pay with cash, check or credit card. Guests complimentary.



Associate Director of Music for Children and Students Hired

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Fellowship and Small Groups, *continued from page 1*

lows the silence. Those who are able may choose to stay for a 20-minute period of silence.

Prayer Ministry – Everyone is welcome for a time of quiet prayer in which we lift up the joys and concerns of our congregation and our world. No experience necessary. All prayers are held in confidence. Ongoing Thursdays, 10:30 a.m., Room 202. The third Thursday of each month we meet in a retirement community.

Young Men's Bible Study – Led by Glen Miles. Begins Wed., Nov. 2, 6:30 p.m. in the church library. Study of the Book of Matthew.

Grief and Support

Getting a Grip on Grief – Facilitated by Mary Linda McDonnell. Meets the third Tuesday of each month from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Our next meeting is Tues., Sept. 20, Room 202. Everyone welcome. We deal primarily with personal loss due to the death of a loved one or unemployment, divorce, or diminished health.

Faith and Grief Lunch Ministry – a safe place for those who grieve to remember, pray, and share a meal together. Noon - 1:00 p.m. the first Tuesday of every month. Everyone is welcome. Free will offering. RSVP is encouraged at <http://www.faithandgrief.org/>. Lunches are hosted at Village Presbyterian Church, 6641 Mission Road, Prairie Village.

Education, Enrichment and Exercise

Lunch and Learn – Fun and educational lunch programs. Date and time TBD.

Yoga – Certified yoga instructor, Susan Garner, teaches yoga to all levels of expertise, stretching mind, body and soul. Meets Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. in Room 309. \$10 per class. Discount for paying monthly.

Exploring Jazz and Other Unpopular Music – Is your favorite album number 510,583 on Amazon's music sales? Do you wish for a stereo system that costs more than your car? Do you have no one to converse with regarding your musical tastes? If your answer is yes to any of the above, this is the small group for you. First meeting: Sun., Oct. 9 at 10:00 a.m., Rm. 302. Led by Lee Brumitt.

Listening for God – Exploring Literature – A weekly book group led by Randy Irey. Ongoing, Fridays, 7:30 a.m., Youth Center (Rm. 205).

FaithPub – Led by Glen Miles. Group for men of all ages. Begins Thur., Feb. 15, 7:00 p.m. at The Well (7421 Broadway St., Kansas City, MO), where participants can enjoy a beverage, appetizer or light meal, and connect with other men looking for sacred conversations around stuff that matters.

Running Groups – If you like to run (or walk) join us at either or both weekly runs. Ongoing Tuesdays at 6:00 a.m. and on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. through Oct. 19. The group will share a word of scripture, prayer or devotion and a three-mile run on a route near the church. Led by Glen Miles and Lara Schopp.

TED Talks – Listen to a relevant TED Talk as a group and engage in group discussion. Facilitated by Craig Doty.

Oct. 2, Nov. 6 and Dec. 4 at 10:00 a.m., Youth Center (Rm. 205).

Parents of Young Children

Kindermusic® for Parents of Infants (0-18 months) – Begin with 30 minutes of Kindermusic followed by a meal and fellowship. Sundays, 4:00-6:00 p.m. from Oct. 2-Nov. 6.

Parents of 3-6 year olds – Book study: *How to Raise an Adult* by Julie Lythcott-Haims. Sundays, 4:00-6:00 p.m. from Oct. 2-Nov. 6. Led by Jenny Hobick. First meeting at Hobick home in Fairway, KS.

Parents of Elementary Aged Children – Book study: *How to Raise an Adult* by Julie Lythcott-Haims. Sundays, 4:00-6:00 p.m. from Oct. 2-Nov. 6. Leader to be announced.

MOPS (birth – Kindergarten) – Led by Rachel Wymore. Meets second Wednesday of the month, Sept.-May from 9:00-11:00 a.m. in the Social Hall. Childcare provided. Mom's night out the 4th Wednesday of the month.

Music

Men's Ensemble – Singers for periodic performances. Led by Paul Tucker. Date and time TBD.

For more information about any of the groups, please contact Anne Haraughty, Ministries Coordinator, at anneh@cccckc.org.



Lessons from Heavy Traffic

By Dr. R. Glen Miles



Early on Wednesday of this week I was on my way to the church when I ran into heavy traffic on Ward Parkway. I made a lane change to move past a long line of slow moving cars. I noticed a car coming up behind me at a very high rate of speed. I glanced down at my speedometer. I was going 39 miles per hour, 4 mph over the limit. This oncoming car was really moving.

The car continued until it was very, very close to me. I looked in my rearview mirror. I could see the driver's face. She was clearly not happy with me. I had no trouble determining the name she called me.

Suffice to say it was not nice.

My immediate reaction? Well, I'm embarrassed to admit, I let up on the gas. My slight slowing caused her to react in a not so nice way again. She was REALLY angry now. And then my conscience, or the Holy Spirit, or the voice of my grandmother, or maybe all three, kicked in and asked, "What are you doing?" Not wanting to upset my Grandma Small or the Holy One, I pulled over to the far lane, looked in her direction as she roared past, and smiled and waved in a way that I hoped said, "I'm sorry," and continued on toward the church and the day ahead.

I have no idea why she was in such a hurry but my petulant behavior helped me see how easy it is to let my ego get in the way of almost ruining a beautiful day. I had been up early. The coffee was especially good. My review of the day's news had been fascinating. My prayer time felt rich and satisfying, in way it hadn't for several days. My calendar was full but I was ready to get a lot accomplished. All of that was almost destroyed by my silly, stupid, childish little act.

In Genesis 4 God warns Cain, "sin crouches at the door." The word used for "crouch" is one used to describe a lion that is ready to pounce on its prey. Last Wednesday, sin was riding next to me in the car. It was more than ready to pounce and inspire my hyper-competitive foolishness to wreck a potentially wonderful day. I'm embarrassed to admit how quickly I gave in to the temptation. I am so glad that my grandma was nudging the Holy Spirit to get after me, though. The rest of the day saw many tasks accomplished, some wonderful conversations engaged and a serene sense of ministry being done.

We don't talk much about sin in our church and most of the time that is a good thing, even a godly thing. Yet, as I was reminded in heavy traffic, the opportunities for messing up our lives never seem to be far away. Thank God for the goodness of grace, the eternal promise of forgiveness, and for helpful heavenly nudges.

Love to you all,

Upcoming Guest Lunch

We invite all guests and friends of the congregation to attend the luncheon from 12:15-1:30 p.m. on Sun., Sept. 18 to learn more about the church, meet the ministers and ask questions about the denomination and church. Lunch will be served in the Solarium (Rm. 309). For more information or to RSVP, contact Barbara George barbarag@cccckc.org.

New Member Sunday

Are you interested in joining the Country Club Christian Church family? The next New Member Sunday is Sept. 25. Contact Barbara George at barbarag@cccckc.org for more information.

Worship with us!

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

**September 11
Festival Sunday**
People Get Ready
Mark 9:14-27

**Sermon Series: Deep Courage
Begins September 18**

Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

Prayer Ministry on the Road: Claridge Court in September

Our Prayer Ministry will be on the road Thur., Sept. 15, 10:30 a.m. at Claridge Court Senior Living Community (8101 Mission Rd, Prairie Village, KS 66208). Everyone is welcome to join us for prayer, a simple service with communion, and fellowship. We will gather with Claridge Court's residents in their "Pub" from 10:30-11:00 a.m. For information, contact joew@cccckc.org.



Prayer Ministry on the Road at Foxwood on Aug. 18

Via Retreat for Women

Register for the Women's Via spiritual renewal retreat Oct. 21-23 online at <http://tinyurl.com/ccc-women>.

The women's retreat at Tall Oaks Conference Center is designed to foster renewal, relaxation and reconnection.

Cost includes lodging for two nights and all meals and program materials. It's not too early to register. Cost is \$125.



The women's retreat will follow the same curriculum as the April 2016 men's retreat, opportunity for personal reflection and reconnecting with the Spirit of God while also connecting with new friends, learning new forms of prayer and spiritual patterns, and enjoying the beauty of nature.

Contact Anne Haraughty at anneh@cccckc.org for more information.

Virginia Reed Food Drive

The next Virginia Reed Food Drive is Sept. 18. Our emphasis is on cereal. We have three ways to donate:

- Bring canned goods to our donation points in the parlor and chapel any Sunday.
- Make a financial contribution to the Virginia Reed Food Drive on the Harvesters Community Food Network website. On Sept. 18, a computer will be available in the parlor to make an online donation. (christianchurch.harvestersvfd.org).
- 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.



Collection Connection: Small Tools for Jerusalem Farm

Jerusalem Farm needs new and used small tools to lend to neighbors in the Northeast and for use by small groups helping with construction and repair of neighborhood homes.

They especially need painting supplies (rollers and brushes), screwdrivers and hammers. Monetary donations are also needed as well.



Jerusalem Farm's mission is to make themselves available to the needs of the Northeast community. They are devoted to developing relationships and eliminating substandard housing through home repair and coordinating volunteers from Kansas City and around the country.

"Based on the four cornerstones of Prayer, Community, Service and Simplicity, we strive to transform our lives and those around us through service retreat experiences, sustainable living and home repair."

Getting a Grip on Grief

Our new grief support group, facilitated by Rev. Mary Linda McDonnell, meets the third Tuesday evening of each month from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Our next meeting is Tues., Sept. 20, Room 202. The group is free and open to the community. We deal primarily with personal loss due to the death of a loved one or unemployment, divorce, or diminished health. For information, contact care@cccckc.org.



Serve: Finding Picasso

By Lara Schopp, Director of Communications



The day was warm, but the front door had been left open for an appliance delivery for the family who would soon be inhabiting this small home. A team from our church was there, through our partnership with Della Lamb Community Services, cleaning the kitchen and bathroom, setting up beds and putting dishes away. All morning there had been a buzz of activity as the crew worked to ensure this home's new family—who was likely fleeing from some violent, war-torn part of the world—would have a safe and comfortable space to begin their new life.

Amid the activity, through the open door pawed a tiny black and white kitten. His fur was matted and he was scrawny, undernourished and very thirsty. They cuddled and petted the little guy, who relished the attention and purred his approval. He slept while the workers tended to their chores.

As they finished, one of the team members, Ruth Bradshaw (who happens to be my mom), couldn't bear the thought of turning the kitten back out into the heat and uncertain future. After conferring with the Della Lamb employees and leaving her contact information should anyone report him lost, the wee feline was on his way to his very own safe and comfortable space to begin a new life.



Some days you prepare a new home for refugees and you end up with a little refugee of your own.

You may know that the Communications team at church has been working for a year on a redesign of the church's web site. You're going to be hearing a lot more about that soon. In the meantime, here's a preview.

One of the priorities for the redesign from our Outreach, Missions and Special Offerings Ministry Team was the ability to review and sign up for service opportunities online. There are many way to serve: tasks on the church's campus, projects across our community—like the refugee resettlement team through Della Lamb—and mission trips. By going to www.cccckc.org and clicking the Serve link, you can review volunteer options, fill out a form, and you will be on your way to connecting with a meaningful service opportunity.

While I can't guarantee that you'll find a sweet kitten wherever you choose to serve, I hope you will find this, and the other redesigned areas of the site, useful tools to connect with your faith community in ways that work for you.

And by the way, the kitten's new name is Picasso, and he has completely taken over both Ruth's home and her heart.

Lara

Join 2017 Nicaragua Mission Informational Meeting

In February 2017, Country Club Christian Church will send a mission team to Nicaragua. This trip will involve both medical mission work as well as a community project.

If you are interested in participating in this mission opportunity or want to learn more, join us for an informational meeting on Sun., Sept. 25, at 12:15 p.m., Room 202. Contact Joe Walker at joew@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917 for more information.

For the past 11 years, our church has worked in partnership with CEPAD, the Protestant Council of Churches in Nicaragua. CEPAD's vision is to serve poor communities, promoting justice, peace and solidarity with the aim of improving quality of life. CEPAD works with each community over several years to facilitate independence in areas of agriculture, education, community infrastructure (clean water, sanitation) and governance.

Blood Drive on October 16

The Community Blood Center will be in our Social Hall on Sun., Oct. 16 from noon– 3:00 p.m. to receive donations. To schedule an appointment, go to <https://www.esavealifenow.org/PublicScheduler/Schedule/TimeSelect.aspx>

Associate Directors of Music for Children and Students Named



Please welcome Sara and Alex Goering as our Associate Directors of Music for Children and Students. Sara and Alex will sing a duet during all three worship services on Festival Sunday, Sept. 11.

Stop by the children's welcome table on the second floor on Sun., Sept. 18 and Sun., Sept. 25, to say hello. Children's Choir will start on Sun., Oct. 2, 11:00-11:30 a.m. in the Children's Choir Room (Rm. 213).

Watch for information about music programs for middle and high school students in the coming weeks.

Sara has a bachelor's degree from the University of Kansas, where she was a voice major studying with Dr. Julia Broxholm. She was a member of Dr. Paul Tucker's Chamber Singers for four semesters and studied vocal jazz. She also has strong skills in music arranging. Sara comes to Country Club Christian Church from Westport Presbyterian Church where she was the alto section leader and soloist. She currently works as the payroll coordinator for the Spring Hill school district.

Alex majored in theatre and voice at KU, studying with Dr. John Stephens. He was in Dr. Tucker's Chamber Singers for four semesters. Alex also comes from Westport Presbyterian where he was the tenor section leader. He is a licensed realtor and team leader of Goering Group with BHGRE.

In addition to their church positions and involvement with church throughout their lives, they work with youth throughout the Kansas City metro area. Alex is artistic director of Madison Avenue Performing Arts, a youth theater organization that serves the southern Johnson County area. Sara frequently works for that group as a director and music director, and is also treasurer. Alex has been involved with the Lyric Opera youth summer camp and Sara has five years of experience working for a youth theatre and music camp in Overland Park.

Because of their busy lives, Sara and Alex treasure opportunities to work together and are very excited about the possibilities at Country Club Christian Church. We warmly welcome them and look forward to the creative spirit they bring to the position.

Upcoming Student Events

High School BBQ Tour – Sun., Sept. 11. 3rd Annual High School BBQ Tour, 9th-12th grade. Get out your bibs and wet wipes!

Middle School Pizza Tour – Sun., Sept. 18, 12:00 p.m. All 6th-8th graders are invited to take a bite of some delicious Kansas City pizza.

Sunday School Schedule

9:55-10:55 a.m.: Middle School Sunday School, Rm. 202

9:55-10:55 a.m.: High School Sunday School, Youth Center

Running Group

Runners of all abilities are invited to join the church's running group. Glen Miles and Lara Schopp are leading weekly group runs. Lara is leading a Tuesday



morning group, starting from the south parking lot at the church at 6:00 a.m. Glen is leading a Wednesday afternoon run, leaving from the church at 5:30 p.m. After a brief word of scripture, prayer or devotion, each group runs approximately three miles.

Whether you're hitting the pavement daily or it's been a while since you laced up your running shoes, this group is for you! Fast or slow, marathon veteran or aspiring 5K-er, runners (and even walkers) of all abilities are welcome.

Email Laras@cccckc.org to be added to a running group email for more information.



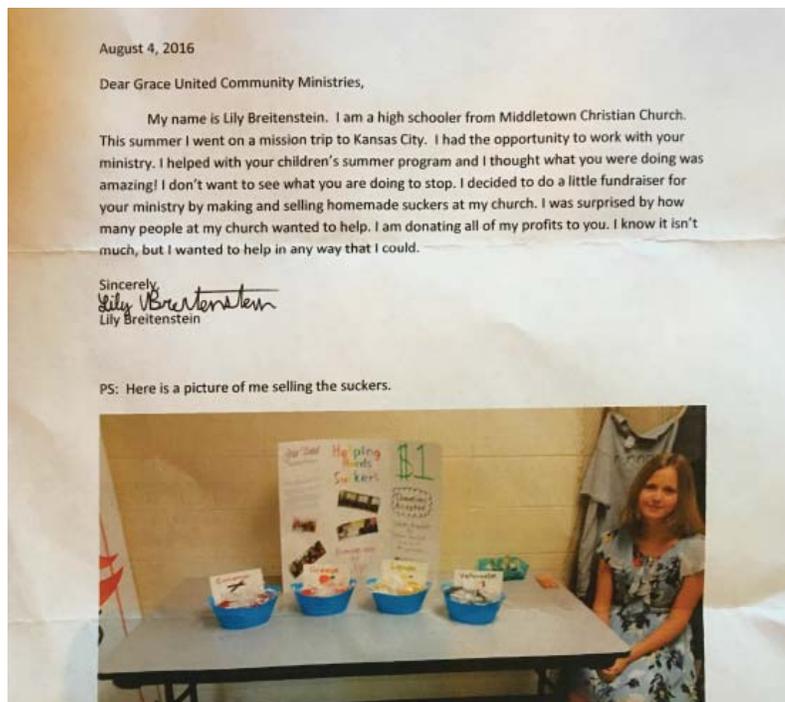
MissionKC Update

by Rev. Monica Lewis, Minister to Children, Students and Families



When I returned in August after being away from the building for almost three weeks (to Christian Community Camp in Colorado and then a few days of vacation) I had over 1,200 emails. Granted, lots of those were junk email but there were lots that weren't. It took me a couple of days to make my way through them...and I'm still not completely sure I did that very effectively. Among those emails was one that brought me to tears in my office – “happy tears” as my daughter and I call them.

If you'll recall, this summer we hosted a mission group from Louisville, Kentucky as part of our pilot summer for MissionKC. Our hope is that we can be a mission station to send people out in our city each summer to serve and get to know the wonderful people who live in Northeast KC. I try hard. I do what I can to make sure things are always ready. But the reality is none of us ever really know if what we're doing is making a difference. Until we get an email with this attached...



How cool is that?

Monica

Children and Families

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 Sept. 14. For more information on MOPs, check out www.mops.org.

Club Kids Welcoming Lunch

Kids grades 3-5 and their parents are invited to a lunch on Sun., Sept. 18, 12:00-2:00 p.m. in the Youth Center (Rm. 205). Come hear plans for the upcoming year in Club Kids. Please RSVP to Elizabeth Pflazgraf, elizabethp@cccckc.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.deep-bluekids.com.

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PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. R. Glen Miles
Senior Minister

Ms. Anne Haraughty
Ministries Coordinator

Rev. Carla Aday
Executive Minister

Ms. Lindsay Howes
Director of Children's Ministries

Rev. Monica Lewis
Minister to Children,
Students and Families

Ms. Sally Huggins
Assistant Director of Communications

Rev. Joe Walker
Minister of Congregational Care

Ms. Lisa McCleish
Director of Early Childhood Programs

Mr. Jason Ashley
Director of Building and Grounds

Ms. Elizabeth Pfalzgraf
Assistant Director of Children and
Student Ministries

Ms. Rachel Clement
Director of Finance

Rev. Chuck Pickrel
Director of Student Ministries

Mr. Paul Cutelli
Director of Technology and
Administrative Services

Ms. Lara Schopp
Director of Communications

Dr. Dina Pannabecker Evans
Co-Director of Music

Dr. Paul Tucker
Co-Director of Music

Ms. Barbara George
Director of Membership
Development

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816-333-4917

email: office@cccckc.org website: www.cccckc.org

Sermons Available on iTunes

Sermon audio files are now available for download on iTunes. Miss a Sunday? Download the most recent sermon and listen to it on your handheld device at your convenience. To find the sermon files, go to iTunes and search Country Club Christian Church. Subscribe to ensure you never miss a sermon. And, watch for new podcast content to be available for download soon.

Grace at Work, October 8

Opportunities for us to serve together in our community abound as we prepare for our Grace at Work morning on Sat., Oct. 8, 8:00 a.m.-noon. Teams will be working at Jerusalem Farm, Hartman Elementary School, Grace United Community Ministries, Cross-lines Community Outreach, reStart Homeless Shelter, Micah Ministries, Sheffield Place, and Harvesters Community Food Network. We also invite volunteers who can bring a casserole or serve the 8:00 a.m. breakfast kick-off with fellowship and prayer.

On-line registration and complete information about each project will be available soon. For more information, contact Ben and Katie Carrier at graceatwork@cccckc.org.