



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.*

Annual Thanksgiving Dinner



Rev. Bob Hill will be the speaker at our annual Thanksgiving Dinner celebration on Thur., Nov. 17. Rev. Hill was senior minister of Community Christian Church in Kansas City for 30 years before retiring in 2015. 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 \$18 per adult, \$10 per child, maximum \$50 per immediate family. Purchase tickets in the parlor on Nov. 6 and 13.

Outreach and Mission Activities

To Serve – These two little words are on a tab on the church’s newly revamped website at www.cccckc.org. While the words might be small, the results from our church’s efforts are significant, positive and ever growing.

As we move into this month of Thanksgiving, we want to show our gratitude for the Outreach and Mission Ministry Team and all of the many volunteers who share their time and talents to serve God’s people throughout the world.

The Outreach and Mission areas are divided into four distinct areas:

Grants and Special Offerings Ministry Team:

In the last fiscal year this ministry team evaluated grant requests from dozens of agencies and extended \$182,239 in funding to over a dozen agencies including Sheffield Place, Kansas City Care Clinic, Harvesters Community Food Network, Kansas City Women’s Employment Network, Micah Ministry as well as Disciples Mission. The 2015 Christmas offering of over \$27,000 was donated to aid refugees through Week of Compassion. The Easter offering

of over \$12,000 was donated for missionary sponsorship. The team is chaired by Lance Jessee.

Metro Mission Ministry Team: Metro Mission is involved in local volunteer opportunities through ongoing service projects like Micah Ministry, Cross-Lines Community Outreach, Hartman Elementary School, Grace at Work, the Virginia Reed Food Drive and Collection Connection. Volunteer hours number in the thousands for the last fiscal year, which translates to thousands of clients receiving help.

- Over 100 volunteers spent 600 hours tutoring at Hartman Elementary helping over 800 students.
- Over 100 volunteers spent over 500 hours cooking, purchasing groceries and serving lunch the first Tuesday of each month to more than 2,100 grateful recipients. Through offsetting donations the total cost to the Metro Mission budget to do



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Outreach and Missions, *continued on page 2*

- Over 10,000 meals were served at Micah Ministry the second Monday of each month by a team from our church. Over 1,000 hours were spent cooking, purchasing food, delivering food and serving. During the same period almost 150 hours were spent working in the Micah clothes closet helping clients find much needed clothing.
- The Virginia Reed Food Drive serves five food pantries in the area with a combination of donated foods, purchased foods and credit to purchase food by the agencies by donations to Harvesters. Seven volunteers are active in this mission spending many hours ordering food, delivering food and taking care of the collection baskets at the church.
- Grace at work is the all-church half day Saturday morning volunteer event held twice a year, in April and October. Over 100 members head out to local agencies and do needed volunteer work. Teams also do projects on our campus.
- Collection Connection is a long standing monthly campaign to help deserving agencies and our International Mission groups collect much needed supplies to support their work. This program is highly regarded by all the recipients and members have been generous it making it a ongoing and growing success.

The Metro Mission Ministry Team is co-chaired by Ed and Carol Pasley.

Mission Trip Ministry Team: Our church convenes teams to travel to areas in the United States when disasters strike. Teams have traveled to New Orleans, Joplin and Moore, OK among others to aid in hurricane relief and tornado relief. Teams also go on international mission trips twice a year and currently those teams travel to India and Nicaragua. See much more detailed information on both of these international mission opportunities on the website.

Northeast PartNerShip – PartNerShip is an initiative focusing on developing relationships in the Northeast Kansas City community and working collaboratively to make an impact. The initiative targets the area on the Independence Avenue corridor near Benton Boulevard. Currently we work with four agencies in that area and many volunteer activities are available. The agencies are: Della Lamb Community Services, Grace United Community Ministries, Sheffield Place and Jerusalem Farm.



For new information on the Northeast PartNerShip, the agencies and the volunteer opportunities coming soon and all the other areas noted in this article please visit the website and click on the “TO SERVE” tab.

1,080 Slices of Pumpkin Pie

Last Thanksgiving we collected enough pies and donations to serve 1,080(!) slices of pumpkin pie at Micah Ministry. Your extraordinary generosity made the traditional Thanksgiving meal sweeter and more festive for our neighbors in need of hospitality. Again this year, our November Collection Connection invites you to make a pumpkin pie or donate so that we can buy a big, delicious pie from Costco. Pies need to be delivered to our church on Sunday, Nov. 20. Checks or cash donations may be placed in the offering with “Micah Pumpkin Pies” in the memo line or written on the envelope. For text giving, text the word PUMPKIN to 816-839-9410 and include the amount you’d like to contribute. Micah Ministry is the social services outreach at Independence Boulevard Christian Church in the historic Northeast neighborhoods of Kansas City. For information on volunteer opportunities to serve meals, sort clothing, and help with other ministries, contact joew@cccckc.org.



Save the Date! 2017 Dinner and Auction

Mark your calendar for the 8th Annual Celebration Dinner and Auction, Fri., Apr. 7, 2017 at the College Basketball Experience (1401 Grand Boulevard, Kansas City, MO 64106).



New This Year –

Students in grades 6-12 are invited to join in the fun at an event designed just for them on the first floor of the College Basketball Experience. This is a great opportunity to invite a friend for an evening of games, food and fun!



Wednesday, November 9, 2016

By Dr. R. Glen Miles



On Wed., Nov. 9, the sun will rise in the east while over 300 million Americans prepare for another day in school or eight hours of work at the office or some other task. There will be homework assigned, meetings held and meals prepared. Your day will no doubt reflect something similar.

That morning my alarm will sound at 5:45 a.m. Like I always do, I will roll over, shut it off and try to squeeze in some more sleep. I'll eventually get out of bed, start the coffee that Julie prepped the night before, take care of the dogs, eat some cereal and read the morning sports reports.

Next, I'll read through *The New York Times*. Once I have caught up with the news of the day I'll visit BibleGateway.com where I can read the scripture lesson I am preaching on later that week. After reading it through three times I'll set it aside for several moments of what I like to call deep listening or meditative silence. I'll then turn to a book I'm reading for my morning devotion by the poet David Whyte, *Consolations: The Solace, Nourishment and Underlying Meaning of Everyday Words*. I will have almost finished his book by then but I may reread his thoughts on maturity: "Maturity calls us to risk ourselves as much as immaturity, but for a bigger picture, a larger horizon; for a powerfully generous outward incarnation of our inward qualities and not for gains that make us smaller, even in the winning."

The rest of the day will be filled with my normal schedule of meetings and pastoral phone calls, some long-range planning and maybe a hospital visit or two. I'll check in with the church staff on our campus, too, making sure all is going well.

That evening I'll lead the Bible Study for young adult men meeting in the church library and when the day is done Julie and I will catch up with each other. We will "check in" as she likes to say. We will watch the news, share a glass of wine, a bit of bread and prepare for a night of rest.

Just before I lay down I will say an evening prayer, especially focusing on the newly elected President of the United States of America. No matter who that is I will be grateful for the love, mercy and grace of God freely given to all and the hope that begins and ends with those sacred gifts.

Grace and peace to you,

New Member Sunday

Are you interested in joining the Country Club Christian Church family? The next New Member Sunday is Nov. 13. Contact Barbara George at barbarag@cccckc.org for more information.

Worship with us!

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

Nov. 6

Is This the End of the World?
2 Thessalonians 2:1-4; 13-17

Nov. 13

'Twas Grace that Taught
My Heart to Fear
Isaiah 12

Coming for Advent

Where the Love Light Beams

Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

Photographer to be at The Well on November 6

Dennis Hedberg, a native of Kansas City who has taken beautiful photographs of our renovated campus, will be at The Well on Sun., Nov. 6, from 9:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. along with prints for purchase. Purchase one of the copyrighted photos in several sizes and have it signed by Dennis. Proceeds from your purchase will benefit Week of Compassion.



©2016 Dennis Hedberg

Dennis was asked to photograph our church after the renovation. Many of those photographs have been used to promote our church. Canvas prints and Christmas Cards from those shots are also for sale in The Well.



His hobbies include traveling and restoring old cars, both of which give him plenty

Prayer Ministry on the Road

Our Prayer Ministry will be “on the road” Thur., Nov. 17 at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel at Brookdale Overland Park. Everyone is welcome to join us for prayer, a simple service with communion, and fellowship with the Brookdale residents. Brookdale Overland Park is located on the southeast corner of 119th and Lamar, 6101 West 119th Street, Overland Park, KS 66209. For information, contact joew@cccckc.org.

Kansas City Guitar Society Concert

The Kansas City Guitar Society presents Guitarras Ibéricas on Sun., Nov. 6, at 3:30 p.m. in Combs Chapel. Guitarras Ibéricas is a trio and the backbone of Ensemble Ibérica. The group includes different styles of guitars and performs a wide repertoire of music from Spain, Portugal, Brazil, Argentina, Bolivia and Cuba. The event is sponsored by our Music Ministry.

Faithbook: Women Exploring Scripture and Forming Friendships

FaithBook is a place for women to connect and reconnect, a place to share stories, a place to challenge one another to grow in faith. All are welcome. Meet amazing women forming friendships and sharing scripture. Come and go as your schedule permits on either Tuesday nights from 7:00-8:00 p.m. or Wednesday mornings from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Youth Center. Carla Aday presents a scripture and small groups discuss.

What We Talk About When We Talk About God – Nov. 1/2, 8/9, 15/16

Inspired by Rob Bell’s recent book with the same title. How are we modern Christians to ponder the reality of God in a modern scientific age?

Thanksgiving break – Nov. 22/23

PARTY! – Nov. 29/30. Stay tuned for our holiday party details.

Winter/Spring Session – Jan. 3/4 through Apr. 4/5

Purchases through AmazonSmile Benefit Week of Compassion through The Well

Every time you shop through AmazonSmile, your purchases can benefit Week of Compassion through The Well. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you’ll find the same prices and selection as amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to The Well for Week of Compassion.



To shop at AmazonSmile go to smile.amazon.com using your regular account from Amazon.com. Your shopping cart and other account settings are the same. You need to select Country Club Christian Church as your charitable organization to receive donations before you begin shopping. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.



Seek and You Will Find

By Lara Schopp, Director of Communications



Now that our newly redesigned web site has been live for a couple of months, I hope that you've had a chance to look around. I have a lot of favorite things about our new design, and I thought it would be fun to share my top 10 with you.

1. The search feature. At the top of the list is our search feature. It's conveniently located at the top right of every page, and all you have to do is type in a keyword related to the information you're seeking, and boom! I use this feature almost every day. It's a super quick way to jump right to the info you need.
2. The faces! I love that our redesign has so many opportunities to include photos of the people of this faith community. If you look around you'll probably see someone you know.
3. The simple organization. Everything you need to know about the church is organized into four main sections and several subsections, all accessible on the main home page, or through mouse-over menus.
4. The 'blog' sections. We are updating the site every week with all of the date-specific information you see in the newsletter and bulletin insert, organized by category, so all of latest details on events is at your fingertips. And you can also read traditional-style blogs from the clergy and staff.
5. The Serve sections. Click into the Serve sections for a form that allows you to explore and sign up for one of our many service opportunities.
6. The Give section. It's never been easier to give online! See this section for details on the many ways to give.
7. The Calendar. The church's recent move to the Fellowship One suite of database tools has allowed us to integrate our main church calendar into the web site, so the information here is always as up to date as possible.
8. The Sermon audio section. Have you subscribed to our podcast feature yet? If not, you can go to the Sermons page for information about how to use iTunes or Soundcloud to download sermon audio files to listen to on your phone or tablet at your convenience.
9. The responsive design. The site was built to be easy to use on your phone or tablet.
10. Wordpress and Cornerstone. Our site redesign is built on a platform called Wordpress which uses various plug-ins, like Cornerstone, that allow us to create the kind of look we want for certain pages. When we edit pages in Cornerstone, it gives us fun positive reinforcement when we save a page, like "Neat-o!" and "Bodacious!" These little messages always make me laugh.

If you haven't already, take a look around and let us know what you think.

Lara

TED Talk Discussions

Discuss the intersection of social issues, ideas and our shared faith in a series utilizing TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design) Talks from the immensely popular TED live events, videos and podcasts. Participants watch the talks together and then participate in a discussion. Open to all ages. Facilitated by Craig Doty. 10:00-10:50 a.m., Youth Center (Rm. 205).

Topics:

- Nov. 6 – The Global Food Waste Scandal, Tristram Stuart
- Dec. 4 – My Year of Biblical Living, AJ Jacobs

Young Adult Men's Bible Study

Led by Glen Miles, this six-week course for young adult men ages 25-40 focuses on the Gospel of Matthew with an emphasis on teachings that focus on contemporary issues. Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in Library. Whether you've been reading the Bible every day for many years or rarely crack it open, you'll find this study and discussion helpful for your faith and personal life.

Virginia Reed Food Drive

The next Virginia Reed Food Drive is Nov. 13. Our emphasis is on soup and crackers. We have three ways to donate:

- Bring canned goods to our donation points in the parlor and chapel any Sunday.
- Make a financial contribution on the Harvesters Community Food Network website. On Nov. 13, 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.

reStart the MusiKC: A Benefit Concert for Teens, Put on by Teens, to Help Teens in Kansas City

Country Club Christian Church Student Ministries will again host reStart the MusiKC, a benefit concert for high school students, planned by the church's high school students. Proceeds will benefit reStart, Inc., an agency providing shelter and support services to homeless individuals and teens in Kansas City.



The concert will be on Tues., Nov. 22 from 7:00-9:30 p.m. in the Social Hall. Students in grades 9-12 are welcome. Tickets are \$5 per person in advance, \$10 at the door.

Trunk or Treat Thrills and Chills

The Combs Chapel parking lot was host to almost 200 children on Sun., Oct. 30. With treats spilling from trunks to children in an array of costumes, the afternoon was fun-filled.



Upcoming Student Events

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

Monthly Special Event

reStart the Music Concert

Tues., Nov. 22, 7:00-9:30 p.m., Social Hall. For 9th-12th grade.

Monthly Service Project

Promotion for reStart the Music

Concert – Sun., Nov. 13, noon-2:00 p.m.

Provide a Meal for a Family of a New Baby

Country Club Christian Church provides meals for the families of new babies born into our church family. If you are interested in being part of this ministry, contact Amy Rose at asm3125@hotmail.com or Rev. Monica Lewis at monical@cccckc.org.

MOPS Holiday Bazaar

The MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) group that meets at Country Club Christian Church is holding a Holiday Bazaar as a fundraiser on Wed., Nov. 9 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the Social Hall.



Walking the Way

By Rev. Carla Aday, Executive Minister



I heard giggles. It was dark and I wasn't sure who was behind me. We had departed the crackling campfire and were traversing the starlit path back to our lodge. "What is it?" I asked, not wanting to miss out on a good joke. And then these two young women in their 20s and 30s told me a funny story about their new 60-plus-year-old friend. None of these women had met 36 hours before. Now they were friends. Not just acquaintances. But spiritual mentors to one another, guides along the way that life takes us.

This scene and countless others like it unfolded at VIA, a spiritual life retreat, held at Tall Oaks Conference Center, the beautifully wooded camp and conference center just 45 minutes west of the church near Bonner Springs. It was a stunningly gorgeous fall weekend. We hiked in short sleeves, the leaves crunching under our feet. We sang four-part harmony around the fire. We did yoga. We practiced new ways of prayer and talked about the twists and turns in our own personal journeys where we have discovered something of the holy unfolding in our lives.

Sometimes what we need most is to just get away. The spirit is ever present within us and around us but between taxiing a kid to the dentist, caring for an aging relative, coaching soccer, and juggling the demands of the office, we scarcely notice anything divine. Even 36 hours just 30 miles from home can be enough to calm the noise of the heart so that we can attune our spirits to God's.

Sometimes we just need to know that we are not alone. Trying to walk in the ways of Jesus isn't always clearly marked. Companions help us through the detours and dead ends. We learn how to parent, how to pray, how to be married, how to risk the unknown when we discover fellow travelers on the path of faith who share in the struggle. Wisdom unfolds in between us.

In 2017, two more VIA retreats will be offered: men in the spring and women in the fall. The retreats will be identical to the two retreats offered in 2016 – but with all new participants. If your spiritual journey would be enhanced by a little time away and by deeper friendships with companions headed in that same direction, consider signing up. (If you have young children, we will offer childcare at the church on Saturday so that the other parent will have some help.)

Carla

Children and Families

Advent in Advance

Sun., Nov. 20, 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), family keepsakes, and other fun activities to help us celebrate Advent.

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 Nov. 9. For more information on MOPs, check out 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.

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Return Service Requested

Our Church Family

Sympathy

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

Al Jacobs

PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. R. Glen Miles Senior Minister	Sara and Alex Goering Associate Directors of Music for Children and Students
Rev. Carla Aday Executive Minister	Ms. Anne Haraughty Ministries Coordinator
Rev. Monica Lewis Minister to Children, Students and Families	Ms. Lindsay Howes Director of Children's Ministries
Rev. Joe Walker Minister of Congregational Care	Ms. Sally Huggins Assistant Director of Communications
Mr. Jason Ashley Director of Building and Grounds	Ms. Lisa McCleish Director of Early Childhood Programs
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