

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.

Celebration of Dr. Miles on Sunday, February 5 One Service at 10:30 a.m.

As you know, we are preparing to say farewell to our senior minister, Dr. Glen Miles, who will be leaving Country Club Christian Church to accept the position of senior minister at First Community Church in Columbus, Ohio. Glen's last Sunday with us is Feb. 5.



Infant dedication

We have been blessed by Glen's leadership. During his tenure, our church championed international mission trips; established partnerships in Kansas City's historic Northeast area; successfully completed the restoration of our building; and directed hundreds of thousands of dollars and volunteer hours to feed the hungry, clothe the poor, and support the impoverished both locally and internationally.

We have heard the promise of grace to all of God's people through Glen's prophetic and inspiring preaching, and our congregation has taken that message out into the world through our welcoming and support of our neighbors near and far.



With Lisa McCleish at Celebration of Service

Join us in worship on Feb. 5, where we will celebrate and honor Glen's 14 years of ministry here. There will be only one service that day, at 10:30 a.m., followed by a reception in the social hall.



Outdoor worship



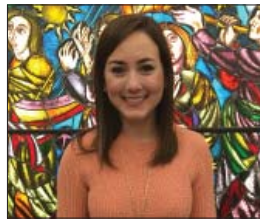
At rededication with Mary McClure and Greg Lear



New Members Welcomed on January 22



Kelly Neible enjoys being with family and friends and travel. She is a graduate of University of Missouri in Columbia and works in Marketing at Foley Equipment in Kansas City. **Her new member host is Christa Jessup.**



Dalia and James Welsh join with their children Donny (12) and Maria (9), who sing in the Children's and Student Choirs. Dalia and James spent their first three years of marriage living in Mexico. James works at Boulevard Brewing and Maria is an accountant and owns her own tax preparation business. **Their new member hosts are Courtney and Garrett Sullivan, Aislinn and Gray.**



A Gathering for Men and Women in Mid-20s to Mid-40s

Looking for a new way to connect at Country Club Christian Church? Join us for Connections, starting Feb. 26 at 10:00 a.m. Hear a group message based on that day's scripture, followed by small group conversations. Contact Anne Haraughty at anneh@cccckc.org for more information.



2017 Dinner and Auction

The 8th Annual Celebration Dinner and Auction is Fri., Apr. 7, 2017 at the College Basketball Experience (1401 Grand Boulevard, Kansas City, MO).



New this Year:

- Students in grades 5-12 are invited to join in the fun at an event designed just for them on the first floor of the College Basketball Experience. Invite a friend for an evening of games, food and fun! Student tickets are only \$15.
- Live performances from some very talented members of our church.
- Wine pull. Attendees will pay a designated amount and blindly choose a bottle of wine. Please consider a donation to this part of the event. We are looking for wines to have a value of at least \$25. See donation information below.

Tickets and Benefactor Information

Individual tickets are \$100/person and are available for purchase online or in The Well. Benefactor packages also available. Visit <http://www.ccccckc.org/2017-dinner-auction/> for more information.

Auction Items Needed!

Do you have an item you'd like to donate for the auction? We are looking for fun and unique items, such as vacation homes, tickets to sporting events or concerts, gift certificates, jewelry, artwork and more! Fill out the form at <http://www.ccccckc.org/2017-dinner-auction/> to submit your item or contact Brian Campbell at brian.campbell@sprint.com or Melanie Thompson at melaniethompson@aol.com.



Grace and Peace to You

By Dr. R. Glen Miles



I cannot even begin to describe what it feels like to say goodbye to all of you at Country Club Christian Church. Your gracious love, constant kindness and ongoing prayers are gifts I will carry with me the rest of my life.

One of the greatest things you have done is help me learn how to let go of fear. I recognize the irony of this gift. After all, I preached often and regularly about leaving fear behind, about letting our faith and the promise of God’s grace guide us in all we do and say. I believe in this message but there were times in our shared ministry when I was very concerned, afraid even, that the steps we were taking were the right ones. Time and time again, many of you stepped into a place where I was filled with fright (without even realizing it) and said or did just the right thing to help me get through.

A few years back a long-time member of our church came into my office without an appointment and announced, “I have a sense you need to be prayed for today. May I pray with you?” I said, “Of course,” and by the end of her prayer my face was filled with tears. Moments like that were repeated over coffee, lunch, and the phone. Last year, on one of our small group prayer runs, my running partner spoke words so encouraging I felt as though the very voice of God was speaking right to me!

Another thing you all have done for me is help me learn how to trust in the Spirit of God and in each other. I firmly believe the Spirit is at work in this place. There are many wonderful signs of new life emerging, of energy being restored, of hope being rekindled. By learning to trust in each other we’ve seen the power of God made real. This church is blessed with tremendous lay leadership. Every accomplishment we have achieved here during the last 14 years is a direct result of the talented and committed leaders who have been more than willing to do whatever it takes to see our ministry thrive.

Finally, there are many other gifts I could name but none more valuable than the gift of grace. I came on to this campus preaching grace but I saw grace made real in your lives, your love and your efforts to care for each other. Your gracious reception of me as your pastor, your love for Julie and our boys, Nate and Steven, will stand forever as symbols of the great love and grace God has poured out on all of you, the merciful and tender-hearted people of Country Club Christian Church.

Grace and peace to you,

State of the Church

Join Dr. Glen Miles and lay leaders as we assess where we have been as a congregation and prepare for our journey into the future on Sun., Jan. 29, at 12:15 p.m., in the Social Hall.

Worship with us!

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

Jan. 29

Blessed

Matthew 5:1-12

Rev. Monica Lewis preaching

Feb. 5

One Service at 10:30 a.m.

Farewell to Dr. Miles

Heartfelt

Jeremiah 31: 31-34

Dr. Glen Miles preaching

Feb. 12

Rev. Joe Walker preaching

Feb. 19

Dr. Mike Graves preaching

Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

Tender Loving Care for Sheffield Place

Our February Collection Connection will offer a little tender loving care to the homeless mothers and their children at Sheffield Place.

Your donation of a gift bag will bring a smile to the face of a mother who is working diligently towards healing and self-sufficiency. Bags (or items for gift bags) may include:

- Women's personal care and hygiene products
- Gift cards for gasoline and medicine

Gift bags and items may be placed in the collection basket in our parlor. Donations by cash or check, or text (816-839-9410) may be made by indicating "MetroMissions" on your gift.



Sheffield Place is unique among our partners serving the homeless. Counseling services are provided by licensed, master's level therapists on site. Mothers average a six-month stay and there is provision for ongoing case management and supportive services once the family transitions from the shelter to permanent housing in the community. For information about volunteer opportunities, contact Barbara George, barbarag@cccckc.org.

Prayer Ministry on the Road

Laurel Mace (standing) led our singing during January's Prayer Ministry on the Road at Bishop Spencer Place. On the third Thursday of each month we offer a service of Word and Communion for residents at a local retirement community.



Via Spiritual Renewal Retreats in 2017

Men: Mar. 31-Apr. 2; Women: Oct. 20-22

Save the dates for spiritual retreats at Tall Oaks Conference Center in 2017. Cost is \$125 per person. An early registration rate of \$110 is available for women's retreat until Aug. 15. Child care will be available at the church by reservation on the Saturday morning of each retreat.

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.

"Finding the time to spend a weekend away from home is tough, but this time should really be thought of as an investment and there is no investment that pays greater dividends than one made in yourself and in your circle of friends." —Kurt Zschietzschmann, a 2016 participant.



Kurt Zschietzschmann

The men's retreat will be led by Rev. Joe Walker, Minister of Congregational Care, and Dr. Mike Graves, St. Paul School of Theology.

BUILDING COMMUNITY BOOK *by* BOOK

All-Church Read: *The Well and the Mine* by Gin Phillips

"After she threw the baby in, nobody believed me for the longest time. But I kept hearing that splash." So begins this year's Book by Book all-church read.



Described as exploring "the value of community, charity, family and hope that we can give each other during a time of hardship," *The Well and the Mine* transports the reader back to the coal mining region of 1930s Alabama in the manner of *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Buy the book in *The Well*, sign up for a one-time discussion with fellow members and friends in homes and coffee shops and be sure to hear the author on Thur., May 11 at 7:00 p.m. at the church and meet her at the reception following. Join others in building community at Country Club Christian Church "Book by Book."



Opportunities Abound

By Anne Haraughty, Ministries Coordinator



If I haven't had the pleasure of meeting you yet, I'm Anne Haraughty, Ministries Coordinator of Adult Education and Enrichment Programs.

I joined the staff in 2016 and have thoroughly enjoyed being part of this church family. Thanks to you all for being so welcoming of me.

If you haven't had the pleasure of joining a new adult education program recently, now is the perfect time to try out something new. We have something for

everyone; we have something for YOU!

- For adults in their mid-20s to mid-40s, we are launching a new class called Connections on Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. starting Feb. 26.
- For men of all ages, we have a weekend retreat called VIA at Tall Oaks Conference Center Mar. 31-Apr. 2. Don't worry, ladies. The women's retreat is this fall – Oct. 20-22.
- For singles, couples, and families, we have a summer camp experience at the YMCA of the Rockies near Estes Park, Colorado June 3-10.
- For avid readers and book club members we have a church-wide book read called Building Community Book-by-Book. This year our church is reading *The Well and the Mine* by Gin Phillips. The author will speak at our church on May 11 at 7:00 p.m. How cool is that?
- For shoppers, we have an in-church gift shop called The Well. The proceeds from your purchases benefit Week of Compassion, which is the relief, refugee, and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).
- For women who want to explore scripture and build relationships with fellow Christian women, we have Faithbook on Tuesday evenings or Wednesday mornings.
- For yoga enthusiasts, we have yoga classes on Monday and Wednesday mornings, led by a certified yoga instructor.
- For adults who want to study the Bible, we have classes on Wednesday morning and evening.

I could go on and on with opportunities you have at Country Club Christian Church. I do hope you'll consider trying something new this year. I know you will be glad that you did!

If you'd like more information on adult education/enrichment programs, please email me at anneh@cccckc.org or call me directly at (816) 381-9252.

Anne

Faith and Grief Lunch

Infant and Baby Loss



Rev. Tabatha Johnson, co-author of "Still A Mother," will speak at our Tues., Feb. 7, Faith and Grief Lunch at Village Presbyterian Church (6641 Mission

Road, Prairie Village). "Still A Mother" is a collection of personal narratives written by clergywomen who themselves have experienced perinatal or early infant loss. These women share their experiences with grief, feelings about God and ministry, and what ultimately is helping them heal.

Our Faith and Grief Lunch Ministry offers a safe place for those who grieve to remember, listen, and pray together. The meal begins at noon and ends promptly at 1:00 p.m., on the first Tuesday of every month. The lunch is free. 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. To register: 469-251-9612 or <http://www.faithandgrief.org/events/kansas-prairie-village-2017-02-07/>

Souper Bowl of Caring

In January our Virginia Reed Food Drive will feature the annual Souper Bowl of Caring on Sun., Jan. 29. Our middle and high school students will be at the church doors as you leave each worship service to receive cash and check donations. We will also be available to help you bring canned soup and other grocery items in from your car.



You may also make a financial contribution to our Virginia Reed Food Drive on the Harvesters Community Food Network website (christianchurch.harvestersvfd.org). On Jan. 29, a computer will be available in the parlor to make an online donation. To contribute through the church, please mark your check or giving envelope "food drive." You may place these gifts in the offering plate during worship. For more information: joew@cccckc.org

Student Ministries Events

First Fridays for Middle School

All 6th-8th graders are invited to join us as we kick off Friday Fridays on Feb. 3 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Youth Center (Rm. 205). We'll have food, fun and fellowship. Bring your friends.

High School Youth Group

Weekly beginning in February, 9th-12th graders will have a fellowship gathering over food with different topics each week. Meetings are on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Depending on your schedule and location, join fellow students for fellowship and food. On Thursdays, beginning Feb. 9, we will gather from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at Spin Pizza (6541 W. 119th St, Overland Park, KS). On Tuesdays beginning Feb. 14 we will gather from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at Panera in Brookside (6301 Brookside Plaza, Kansas City, MO).

High School Game Night

Join us on Sun., Feb. 12 for game night. We will gather from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in the Youth Center (Rm. 205).

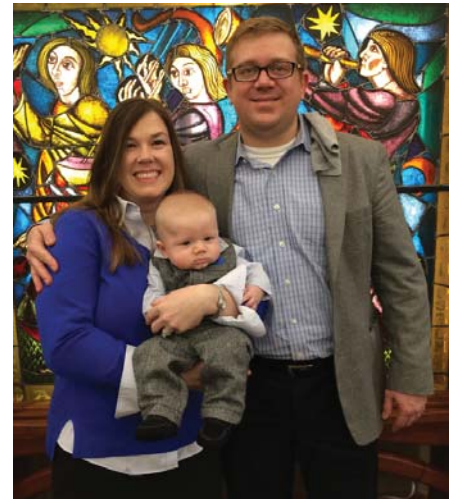
High School Mission Trip

To learn about the mission trip for 9th-12th graders to Fort Worth, TX and Texas Christian University this summer, please attend an informational meeting on Sun., Feb. 12, at noon in the Youth Center. The trip will be June 17-23.

Middle School Mission Trip (Grades 6-8)

June 12-13, 2017. 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 and build memories and lasting relationships with other students.

Infant Dedication



Lincoln Michael Yager, with parents Aaron and Ashlee Yager, was dedicated on Jan. 22.

Christian Community Camp Registration

Registration is open for the 2017 camp June 3-10. A \$250 non-refundable deposit will hold your place. 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. Cost is \$1,700 (\$1,600 if paid in full by Feb. 1, 2017) for a private room; \$375 (\$275 if paid in full by Feb. 1, 2017) for the women's bunk room. Food and activity fee of \$85 per person. For more information, For more information, contact Rev. Monica Lewis at monical@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917.



Way Beyond the Cookies

By Rev. Joe Walker, Minister of Congregational Care



Joe: "Did you know I have a Girl Scout award?"

Girl Scout: "Whaaat?" (complete with a side glance and a little head shake)

Joe: "Because I helped start two Girl Scout troops."

Girl Scout: "Reeeeaaly?" (with another doubting head shake)



It was an amusing little exchange that began last Sunday as I was visiting with one of our young moms and her daughter in our rotunda. In the course of our conversation the mom began telling me what a natural salesperson her daughter is as evidenced by her success moving boxes of Girl Scout Cookies in their neighborhood. I enthusiastically complimented our young member and praised the work of the organization. Then, mostly just for fun, I threw in the quirky anecdote about how my long-standing support of the Girl Scouts had earned me a lapel pin.

But tossing in the anecdote wasn't solely for the bemused reaction of our young member. Encoded in that exchange was a clear message that I valued her and her affiliation with a quality organization and her family's involvement and support of that association. In a somewhat unconventional but memorable manner I communicated that I believe in her and her organization way beyond my \$5 investment in a box of (delicious) thin mints.

The Boy Scouts are with us this coming weekend as we celebrate Scout Sunday. Same deal here: I don't just buy a wreath (or whatever they may be selling). I always make it a point to strike up a brief conversation with the young man and the parents or leaders so as to hear about what they are doing and enjoying and learning.

Throughout the year we are all presented with many informal (and golden!) opportunities to acknowledge and encourage and thank our young people. Think about all of our middle and high school students we pass in the halls on Sunday. Or those who greet us or hand us the offering plate in worship. The ones who serve alongside us during Hartman Elementary School's after school sports leagues (it's basketball season right now). Our teammates during Grace At Work (save-the-date, Apr. 22).

We know from all kinds of studies that our children and teens thrive when they are valued and included and empowered. And while a "Reeeeaaly?" isn't a very scientific measurement, I'm pretty sure it is a good indication of progress in the right direction for the student and for our community.

Joe

Children and Families

First Fridays (3rd-5th Graders)

Feb. 3, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Join us Fri., Feb. 3 for Winter Indoors – dinner, hot cocoa bar, popcorn bar and winter movie. All 3-5th graders are encouraged to join us for this new event. First Fridays will be, you guessed it, on the First Friday of the month. We will have a monthly theme, dinner, activities and fellowship. Save the date for the next one – Mar. 3.

Family Worship Night

Sun., Feb. 19, 4:30-6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. Singing, praying, worshipping, doing mission – all with your entire family. Dinner provided!

Easter Egg Hunt on April 9

Join other children and families for our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Sun., Apr. 9 at 12:00 p.m. on the Combs Chapel and east lawn. This event for the whole family will have a petting zoo and the Easter Bunny. Please bring your cameras to take pictures with the Easter Bunny. Lunch provided. The egg hunts will be age-specific for children birth through 5th grade.

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 Feb. 8 – packing diapers for Happy Bottoms. Size 4&5 most needed. For more information on MOPs, check out www.mops.org.

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Return Service Requested

Our Church Family

Sympathy

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

Jean Marie (Brown) Ross

Congratulations

Congratulations to these families on the birth of:
Olivia Dorothy Jackson, born to Tarah and Ken Jackson.

Memorials

Memorial gifts are placed into the Church's Endowment Funds, which are used to support the church now and into the future. The Endowment Trustees disperse the funds according to the Declaration of Trust approved by the official Congregational Board.

Charlene Neihart

Ann McCray
Anna Toler
Arden & Carrie Sustad
Greg & Jina Lawhon
Guy & Virginia Farrar
Miriam Anderson
Robert & Sandra Bertels
Warren & Marjorie Murphy

Charlene Neihart, for the Sewing Group

John & Doris Soltys

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
Ms. Rachel Clement Director of Finance	Ms. Elizabeth Pfalzgraf Assistant Director of Children and Student Ministries
Mr. Paul Cutelli Director of Technology and Administrative Services	Rev. Chuck Pickrel Director of Student Ministries
Dr. Dina Pannabecker Evans Co-Director of Music	Ms. Lara Schopp Director of Communications
Ms. Barbara George Director of Membership Development	Dr. Paul Tucker Co-Director of Music

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