



VOLUME 91 · NUMBER 7

COUNTRY CLUB

# CHRISTIAN

Strength for the Journey. Grace for the Soul.

## INSIDE

*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.*

## New Senior Minister Called



In accordance with our governing bylaws as well as procedural guidelines, the Personnel Committee recommended and a unanimous vote was affirmed by the Congregational Board Apr. 4 to call Rev. Carla Aday as our next Senior Minister. She has

served Country Club Christian Church for 28 years in a variety of capacities which has prepared her to lead us into the next chapter at 61st and Ward Parkway.

“The Congregational Board was impressed with Carla’s vision for the future of Country Club Christian Church,” said Leeann Blundell, chair of the board. “Carla’s commitment to excellence in all areas of ministry is unparalleled, and her enthusiasm and her dreams for the future of this congregation are exciting. The board looks forward to working with Carla, the church staff and our lay leaders to implement this vision, which Carla will be sharing with the congregation

in the coming months.”

“I deeply love this congregation and am thrilled to be a part of the future that God has in store for us,” said Rev. Aday. Read more about Rev. Aday’s experience at her biography on our website, [www.cccckc.org](http://www.cccckc.org).

This new beginning also leaves a vacancy on our staff therefore, Carla’s specific start date as Senior Minister is not yet determined. The Personnel Committee and Congregational Board will keep you informed during this time of transition and appreciates your patience.

Please congratulate and welcome Carla into her new role!

The Congregational Board of Country Club Christian Church: Board Chair: Leeann Blundell, Past Board Chair: Phil Love, Chair Elect: Scot Glasrud, Personnel Chair: Jen Parker, Treasurer: Lynn Cockle, Secretary: Kathy McDandel, Elder Chair: Steve Bough, Elder Chair Elect: Deb Plucknett, Past Elder Chair: Betsy Wilson, Karen Carlson-Cook, Hannah Fenley, Jeff Gibbs, Esther Giffin, Cindy Irely, J.J. Jones, Nancy Lear, Sally Nielsen, Erin Parkinson, Amy Rose, Courtney Sullivan, Bill Watson Jr., Jim Wells, Travis Wymore

### Holy Week and Easter Sunday Schedule

See pg. 2



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# Holy Week and Easter Services

## Holy Week

**Palm Sunday – April 9.** Families are invited to join the Palm Parade at the 11:00 a.m. service, and our Pastors' Class participants will be baptized. Dr. Mike Graves preaching. Easter egg hunt at noon on the Combs Chapel and east lawns.

**Maundy Thursday – Apr. 13, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary.** In remembrance of Jesus' last supper, we gather to sing hymns, read scripture and celebrate communion. Rev. Carla Aday preaching, "During Supper," John 13:1-7; 31b-35.

**Good Friday – Apr. 14, 12:15 p.m. (organ prelude begins at noon)** Experience the darkest day on the Christian calendar with worship, readings, hymns and solos. Dr. Mike Graves preaching, "Friday in the Empire," Luke 23: 1-5.

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## Easter Sunday – April 16

Celebrate the miracle of Easter at Country Club Christian Church. Dr. Mike Graves preaching, "Easter Folly," Luke 24: 1-12.

### Special Service Times

**8:00 a.m., 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.** – Worship in the Sanctuary. The Kansas City Brass will play at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. services.

Child care available for all services.

### Complimentary Easter Breakfast

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

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

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## Note from Glen Miles

Dear Friends,

Julie, Nate, Steven and I cannot begin to thank you enough for the marvelous send off. Everything from the worship service to the presentation of gifts to the reception and more was perfect. Your generous love gift was wonderful, too. We were overwhelmed by your big-heartedness.

I prayed for you all today. I firmly believe the Spirit of God is actively at work in your midst. I cannot wait to see your marvelous future unfold.

With deep gratitude,  
Glen  
gmiles@fcchurch.com

## New Members Welcomed on April 2

**Kylie Simon** is a registered nurse at St. Luke's Hospital. She grew up in Belton, MO, and loves to travel, shop and spend time with friends and family. She is an avid Royals fan.

New member host is **Patty McComas**.

**Zach Jungmeyer and Devin Jenkins** will be married here next year. Zach is an account manager for Answer Media. He enjoys sports, yardwork and fixing up their home. Devin is lead coordinator for Safe Haven Security and enjoys Pinterest.

New member hosts are **Matt and Valerie Moeder**.

**Keith Robertson and Stephanie Magiera** will be married here in September. Stephanie is from Peoria, IL, and is a consultant at Cerner. Keith is a consultant at Price Waterhouse Coopers and a Mizzou fan. He loves soccer, the outdoors and food. Both Keith and Stephanie love to travel.

New members hosts are **Ben and Katie Carrier**.





## On Mystery

By Dr. Mike Graves, Guest Preacher



Theologians distinguish between two broad streams of thinking about God – kataphatic and apophatic. You can't use these in Scrabble, but they are worth knowing. The former focuses on what can be known about God, whereas the latter stresses what can't be known. We live our lives somewhere in the middle of course, and in the West leaning more toward certainty than mystery.

But every once in a while something happens beyond explanation. Two weeks ago I went out one afternoon to play golf, getting paired up with three guys I didn't know. After a few holes, one of them asked what I do. When I told him I'm a seminary professor, he shared with me that he's a pastor. I'm always up for talking shop, so I asked, "Where did you do your seminary work?" Believe it or not, that's a risky question these days because while everyone I know prefers their physician to be educated, not all churches require that of their clergy. Thankfully, he had been to seminary, Dallas Theological Seminary to be exact.

What a small world, I thought, because the person who was most influential in me going to seminary, albeit a different one, had attended Dallas Theological. When I asked what years he had attended, I couldn't believe it – about the same time as my mentor. "Did you happen to know Rick Dunham?" He said he did, and the next thing I know we were exchanging email addresses so he could send me contact information. Then I told my new golfing buddy how it was I came to be called to ministry.

I was a sophomore in college, and one Wednesday in the summer of 1978, I had gone to Rick and Judi's house before heading to the church for a Bible study that evening. Rick said he needed to look over his notes, and when he plopped down on the couch beside me, he opened up a Greek New Testament. I was instantly intrigued, asked if I could look at it, and the next thing I know the words coming out of my mouth were, "Do you think God would let me learn Greek?" I have no idea why I asked that question, but the next day I started learning Greek and taught myself quite a bit of it before I ever got to seminary. That's definitely apophatic!

Equally unexplainable, the home that Rick and his wife were renting that summer belonged to a professional golfer who was away on tour, Kermit Zarley. And here I was all these years later, reliving it all on a golf course. I have no words for some things that happen in our lives. Except maybe,

## Pathways to Learning: Joy



Bill Tammeus will present "Joy" on Sun., Apr. 9, at 10:00 a.m. in the Social Hall. Bill is an author and the former Faith columnist for *The Kansas City Star*.

He currently writes the daily "Faith Matters" blog. Bill's recent book *The Value of Doubt* will be available for purchase during his talk.

Pathways to Learning is a series of elective offerings open to everyone, focusing on timely topics on the Bible, spirituality, current events, family life and technology. Guests welcome.

## Worship with us!

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

**Palm Sunday, Apr. 9**

On a Scale of 1-10

*Luke 19: 28-44*

Dr. Mike Graves preaching

**Maundy Thursday**

**Apr. 13, 7:00 p.m.**

During Supper

John 13: 1-7; 31b-35

Rev. Carla Aday preaching

**Good Friday**

**Apr. 14, 12:00 p.m.**

Friday in the Empire

*Luke 23: 1-5*

Dr. Mike Graves preaching

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# Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

## FaithPub Resumes

FaithPub for men resumes at The Well (7421 Broadway St., Kansas City, MO) on Thursdays, Apr. 27, May 18 and June 8 at 7:00 p.m. Dr. Mike Graves, our guest preacher, will lead the sessions and guest speakers will present on the theme "Glimpses of God."



Speakers are:

- Apr. 27: Robert Fugarino, Pastor at Park Hill Christian Church
- May 18: Fritz Mutti, retired Bishop of the United Methodist Church
- June 8: David Sallee, former President of William Jewell College

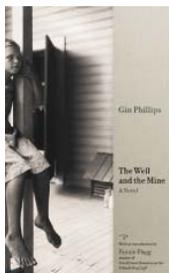
Come hear how other men have experienced a glimpse of God in their everyday lives, in extraordinary moments, in books, nature, movies, or personal experiences. Bring a friend and enjoy a beverage, a burger and a fun and meaningful evening. Come one time or come all three. But don't miss this intergenerational evening!

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## BUILDING COMMUNITY BOOK *by* BOOK

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

Sign up for a one-time discussion of the book "The Well and The Mine" by Gin Phillips with fellow members and friends in homes and coffee shops. Then attend Phillips' presentation on Thur., May 11 at 7:00 p.m. at the church. The book is available in The Well for \$16. Go to <http://www.cccckc.org/book-book-discussion-groups/> to sign up or on Sunday in the parlor or the chapel.



## Virginia Reed Food Drive

Our next Virginia Reed Food Drive is Apr. 23. Our emphasis will be canned tuna and canned chicken. There are three ways to help feed our hungry neighbors:

- Bring a can 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 ([christianchurch.harvestersvfd.org](http://christianchurch.harvestersvfd.org)). On Apr. 23, a computer will be available in the parlor to make an online donation.
- 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.



For other ways to help us end hunger, contact Joe Walker at [joew@cccckc.org](mailto:joew@cccckc.org).

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

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## Connections Session 2 Starts Soon

Connections, a gathering for individuals ages mid-20s to mid-40s, meets on Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the Social Hall. Led by clergy and small group discussion leaders, the focus is deeper study into the week's worship service scripture references.

Session Two will be Apr. 23 and 30 and May 7, 14 and 21.



## Letting Go of Expectations

By Paul Cutelli, Director of Technology and Administrative Services



Lao Tzu, the eastern philosopher proclaimed hundreds of years ago: “If you do not change direction, you may end up where you are heading.” On the surface, this statement seems matter-of-fact; if you don’t deviate from the path you have chosen, you will end up exactly where you are intending to go. Yet, as is often the case in philosophy and in life, things are rarely exactly what they appear. In this instance, it is my opinion that Lao Tzu is trying to tell us something about expectations.

Is there a more “expecting” time in the church than Easter? There is an expectation that there will be baptisms on Palm Sunday, a brunch on Easter morning, and three services in the sanctuary filled with a meaningful message, the scent of lilies, and the songs of our choir. But what if one of those expectations was not met? What if you think that the brunch was not as good as last year or that there were not many children on the lawn for the Easter Egg Hunt? Would it distract you? Anger you?

My fear, and I believe the fear of Lao Tzu, is that expectations not being met can mar our appreciation of our world. We, as opinionated people, latch on to all the wrongs or not-quite-rights or breaches of tradition and in the process lose sight of the real point to the Easter season: the story of the resurrection.

Letting go of expectations is a hard task (especially for me!), but by releasing them it allows us to fully appreciate the world around us and to experience the Easter story like it is the very first time. To continue the metaphor, to get to where we need to go, we sometimes need to take a detour, go the “scenic route” and experience things not according to plan.

After all, no one was expecting Jesus to leave the tomb all those years ago. If he did not change direction, where would we be now?

## 2017 Easter Offering

This year’s Easter Offering will be used to give hope and a lift to two communities that are homeless: veterans in our community and families in Haiti whose homes were destroyed by Hurricane Matthew.

Locally, the Veteran’s Community Project is working to build a community of tiny houses that will be provided to homeless veterans. The tiny houses will provide more than shelter and an address. They will provide a community of support and hope for a better future. Half of our Easter offering will be given to this tiny house project. \$15,000 will build and furnish a tiny house and provide utilities and other services for a veteran for a year.

Last September a community of 30 families in Haiti was almost completely destroyed by Hurricane Matthew, leaving 200 plus people without shelter. House of Hope has been providing food and helping with temporary shelter while helping the community rebuild. They need our support to help supply building materials for this effort. House of Hope is a priority project of Global Ministries.

Mark your gift “Easter Offering” and drop it in the offering plate on Sunday or drop it off in the office.

# Pastors' Class 2017

## Sophie Anne Emerson



Daughter of Darci and Tim Emerson & Emily and Brent Hankins  
Mentor: Jane White Brown

## John Patrick Reddin



Son of Sandra and Tim Reddin  
Mentor: Ryan Jones

## John Michael Kenner



Son of Nancy and David Kenner  
Mentor: Kathy McDandle

## Alexander Matthew Carreño



Son of Anne and Tony Carreño  
Mentor: Howard Petrie

## Liam Alexander Petrie



Son of Cynthia and Howard Petrie  
Mentor: Rick Kupzyk

## Ashton Marie Meuret



Daughter of Rhonda and Mark Meuret  
Mentor: Kristin Patterson

## Student Ministries

### Pastors' Class

**Apr. 9** – Palm Sunday Baptisms, 10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Students arrive by 10:15 for prep and photos.

**Thur., Apr. 13** – 6:00-8:00 p.m.

- 6:00 p.m. End of Pastors' Class party/dinner
- 7:00 p.m. Communion at Maundy Thursday service. Faith Mentors attend.

**Apr. 30** – Pastors' Class Reunion, 9:45-11:00 a.m.

### Night of Improv

Sun., Apr. 9 – 4:00-6:00 p.m., Youth Center (Rm. 205). Come for snacks, games and laughs!

Follow us on social media for more info!

Twitter: @cccckc\_students

Instagram: cccckcstudents

### Middle School Youth Group

Middle School Youth Group meets every Friday during the academic year. 6:00-8:00 p.m., Youth Center. The group will not meet Apr. 7 due to the Celebration Auction and Dinner.

### High School Youth Group

All 9th-12th graders are invited to participate in weekly fellowship gatherings over food with different topics each week. Meetings are all on Thursdays now. Depending on your schedule and location, join fellow students for fellowship and food. 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 5:30-7:00 p.m. at Spin Pizza (6541 W. 119th St, Overland Park, KS), and 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 5:30-7:00 p.m. at Panera in Brookside (6301 Brookside Plaza, Kansas City, MO).

### Sunday School Schedule

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

## Amani Choir Forming



Our congregation, in partnership with Della Lamb Community Services, is forming a choir of refugees and church members called Amani, the Swahili word for peace. The choir will sing in the community as well as at our church. Amanda Sipes, a masters level student at KU, will lead the choir. Please email Barbara George at [Barbarag@cccckc.org](mailto:Barbarag@cccckc.org) if you wish to join. Rehearsals are Tuesday evenings 7:00-8:30 p.m. at Della Lamb, 3608 St. John Ave. Meet in the Chapel parking lot to carpool, leaving at 6:40 p.m.



## Together in a New Way

By Rev. Carla Aday, Executive Minister



I had never been to Kansas City. A vivacious and beautiful young single woman in a brown Oldsmobile sedan picked me up from the airport. The next thing I knew I was seated at a restaurant on the Plaza and there was a large Texas state flag hanging on the wall behind our table. For two days I met with various committees from the church. They packed a lot of the saints onto those committees. People like John Tilton and Mildred Schooling, both of whom I'm pretty

sure were close personal friends of Jesus. Six weeks later, on Labor Day weekend of 1988, I moved to Kansas City to work at this amazing church as the Minister to Single Adults.

I was the first singles minister, the first woman minister, and the only staff person in the building with a computer on her desk (there was one in the finance office but no one seemed to know much about how it worked). I am pretty sure I didn't know what to do next but we made it up as we went along. We started after-school programs in the urban core, we built Habitat Houses in Guatemala, we held dances in the median of Ward Parkway with live music, we subtly played matchmaker in Sunday school and then smiled as singles got married and had children. On my first day on the job, Senior Minister Gene Brice said, "I want you to have fun." And fun we did have!

I couldn't have imagined back then that 28 years later I would still be working at the same church. Nor could I have imagined that the people here could have taught me so much about what it means to follow Jesus. It has been my privilege to stand before dear friends as they said "I do" and to carry longed-for new borns down the aisle to receive God's blessing. We have wept together at bedsides and gravesides. We prayed at ground zero and at the continental divide. There have been more than enough committee meetings along the way. We have studied scripture and theology and learned how to meditate and contemplate.

Now the Spirit has called us together in a new way. I am humbled by the opportunity to serve as the eighth Senior Minister of this historic and forward looking congregation. I hope to build upon the outstanding gifts and graces of Glen Miles, Bob Cueni and Gene Brice, all of whom mentored me and believed in me when I wasn't always so sure of myself. I hope to honor the Spirit of the Living God that is alive in the individual people and the collective whole of this congregation. Together we will take risks. We will fall flat on our faces sometimes. And other times we will beam with joy at our success. But then we will know that we have only been a conduit for the grace, the love and the peace of the God we glimpsed in Jesus Christ.

## Children and Families

### 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 lawns. This event for the family will have a petting zoo and Easter Bunny. Bring your cameras. Lunch provided. The egg hunts will be age-specific for children birth through 5th grade.

### Children's Music Presents "Lessons Over Lunch"

**Sunday, April 23**

The Children's Choir will present "Lessons Over Lunch" on Sun. Apr. 23, at noon in the Social Hall.



Students learn valuable lessons about God's love while enjoying their "daily bread" . . . in this case, covered with peanut butter and jelly!

Rehearsals 11:00-11:30 a.m. Sundays.

### 3rd-5th Grade Events

**May 5 – First Friday, 5:30-7:30 p.m.,**  
Social Hall.

### Family Worship Night

**Sun., May 21, 4:30-6:00 p.m.**

Singing, praying, worshipping, doing mission – all with your entire family.

Dinner provided!

### Vacation Bible School

Register now for Vacation Bible School, June 19-22, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Family Fun Day Sun., June 25. For children ages 2 through 5th grade. Sign up in the parlor or online at <http://2017.cokesburyvbs.com/ccckc>.

### Children's Choir

Rehearsals Sundays, 11:00-11:30 a.m.,

Non-Profit Organization  
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Permit No. 1498



6101 Ward Parkway  
Kansas City, MO 64113

Return Service Requested

# Our Church Family

## Congratulations

Congratulations to these families on the birth of:  
Olivia Jean Graves, born to Michael and Erin Graves,  
granddaughter of Mike and Carol Graves

## Sympathy

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

Mary Louise Knutson

## Grace at Work Is April 22

Join us on Sat., Apr. 22 for Grace at Work, a fun-filled half-day volunteer event open to all ages and abilities. Grace at Work supports our church and area organizations through our participation in various hands-on projects. Many different volunteer opportunities are available. Through your participation you will have the opportunity to experience fellowship, while assisting others in need and creating visible change in our community. Complimentary hot breakfast begins at 8:00 a.m.



## PROGRAM STAFF

Rev. Carla Aday Executive Minister	Sara and Alex Goering Associate Directors of Music for Children and Students
Rev. Monica Lewis Minister to Children, Students and Families	Ms. Anne Haraughty Ministries Coordinator
Rev. Joe Walker Minister of Congregational Care	Ms. Lindsay Howes Director of Children's Ministries
Mr. Jason Ashley Director of Building and Grounds	Ms. Sally Huggins Assistant Director of Communications
Ms. Rachel Clement Director of Finance	Ms. Lisa McCleish Director of Early Childhood Programs
Mr. Paul Cutelli Director of Technology and Administrative Services	Ms. Elizabeth Pfalzgraf Assistant Director of Children and Student Ministries
Dr. Dina Pannabecker Evans Co-Director of Music	Rev. Chuck Pickrel Director of Student Ministries
Ms. Barbara George Director of Membership Development	Ms. Lara Schopp Director of Communications
	Dr. Paul Tucker Co-Director of Music

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