



COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

From the Senior Minister The Risk to Serve



Rev. Carla Aday

We were walking on the beach in Guatemala. She seemed elated about using her own hands to build a Habi-

tatat for Humanity home for a family living in a leaky grass hut. Serving God seemed to be bringing her to life. So I told her that when we got home, she was welcome at the mid-week Bible study class for young adults or to join us in tutoring at-risk kids. "Oh, I don't know about that...going to church more than once a week might be too much for me!"

Her reluctance made me laugh, but it also reminded me our hesitancy to pour our hearts into God's heart. What if we are swallowed up by God's demands to serve? Those of us who claim the label Christian live with the tension of self-care and caring for a brother or a sister in need. How will we find the time to feed the children and get to a deacon meeting? How will we mow the lawn at home and spend Saturday working at the Harvester's warehouse?

A few years ago we invested five million in our building to keep it standing. But what truly keeps the church standing are people like you who invest your hands and hearts into the church. Without your service, the

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Celebration of Service

Complimentary Lunch For All

Join us on Sun., June 24 as we celebrate all of our members and friends who have served during the 2017-2018 year. If you've participated in Grace at Work, served communion, served at Micah Ministry, tutored at Hartman Elementary, taught Sunday School, worked with our partner agencies, or any of the dozens more service opportunities, here at the church or throughout our community, we want to celebrate YOU! Special recognition in all three worship services, and lunch on the front lawn afterward. 🍷



Songs of Life

Sermon Series Continues

The book of Psalms invites us to let the Spirit invade our everyday lives. Like a popular song you hum when your spirit needs support, the Psalms offer us a sustainable spirituality, not a naïve faith, but one that carries us through the darkest valleys with steadfast love. Join us Sundays through July 8 for this series based on the book of Psalms.



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From the Senior Minister

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building is a museum. With you, we become the body of Christ. On Monday, the knitters come, on Tuesday the Green Team plants and weeds, on Wednesday the choir rehearses, on Thursday, the sewers make dresses and the prayer ministry prays, on Friday the funeral guild comforts the grieving, on Sunday the deacons and elders and Sunday school class teachers fill the building with hospitality and hope.

I celebrate the joy you find in serving. An early author and pioneer of our faith wrestled with whether or not to serve and then he prayed to God "Thou has made us for thyself, O Lord; and our heart is restless until it rests in thee." (St Augustine) My heart brims with joy for all the ways you offer yourself into God's holy presence. I sense that it brings you not only joy but an awareness that you belong to God. Thank you for taking the risk to serve.

Grace and Peace,

Carla

New Class

Instructions on Becoming a Disruptive Christian: From Four Who Were



Learn from the lives of four believers who followed Jesus's example as a disruptor of the status quo. Insider, outsider, extrovert or introvert — any one of us can help shift the way things are to the way things should be. No book to read; no outside study. 7:00-8:00 p.m. Mondays, July 9, 16, 23, 30. Led by Teresa Williams. Rm. 201.

Max Deweese Golf Tournament

Attention all golfers: We are pleased to announce the inaugural Max Deweese Golf Tournament on Fri., Sept. 21, at Swope Memorial Golf Course. Beginning with lunch, this 1:00 p.m. shotgun will be a great time of fun, but will also raise funds for the Veterans Community Project, providing shelter for veterans here in the Kansas City area. Make plans now to sign-up (\$150 per person), form a team, and sponsor a hole (\$750). All are welcome. For more information, contact Dr. Mike Graves at mikeg@cccckc.org. Sign up and pay electronically at cccckc.org/golf-tournament.



Easter Offering

Rev. Corey Meyer and Lance Jessee presented a check to KC Community Gardens on June 6. Country Club Christian Church's 2018 Easter Offering raised more than \$20,000 for KC Community Gardens (KCCG) and CEPAD, the Council of Protestant Churches of Nicaragua. These organizations both work to help low income individuals and families produce vegetables and fruit from garden plots located in yards, vacant lots and at community sites.

Thank you to all who gave generously to this offering.

Do You Follow Us?





Big Bread

Dr. Mike Graves, Scholar in Residence and Minister of Spiritual Formation



Down through the centuries, biblical scholars have learned a lot of interesting tidbits about eating in the first century Mediterranean world. They know, for instance, how diners reclined at their meals on a couch called triclinium, how they had bread before dinner and wine during dinner of course, but one ceremonial cup of wine afterwards. Archaeologists have unearthed things as mundane as the size of their dining spaces. Scholars also recognize how the

Gospel writers try to set the so-called Last Supper during the Jewish holiday of Passover, which would have featured unleavened bread.

One thing that remains unknown is the size of the bread people ate. When the host broke off a piece of bread to welcome guests, how big a piece was it? A small morsel, the ancient equivalent of a crouton? Maybe a piece of bread the size of a biscuit? No one knows. I bring this up because the last few weeks at Country Club Christian, we tried cutting bread for Communion into larger chunks. We even came up with dimensions for the pieces of bread we would serve: 1" x 1" x 1.5".

In part, this was for hygienic reasons. People are sometimes surprised to learn that intinction (Latin for dipping) spreads more germs than drinking from a common cup. I'm told that's because there are more germs on our fingers than in our mouths. At our church, a common cup is not an issue so we don't have to worry about that. But at 9:00 and 10:00 every week we do eat by intinction. (The 11:00 service passes trays, so it's not really an issue except on special Sundays when we observe a more joyful Communion.) Because dipping tiny pieces of bread into the cup without getting one's fingers wet proved nearly impossible, we started cutting bigger pieces.

But hygiene was only part of the consideration. A theology of bread (yes, there can be a theology of such things) would suggest bigger pieces of bread representing bigger pieces of God's love. If God is generous toward us, then a small crumb of bread will not suffice. When our family was recently on vacation in Hilton Head, South Carolina, we went out to eat several nights, and at each of the restaurants they brought us huge helpings of bread. Imagine a restaurant trying to serve the size of bread churches offer.

At our church, we have decided the big pieces were too big, too much to handle. But heaven help us Christians if restaurants are more generous than we are when it comes to bread. We need big bread because we serve a big and generous God. 🍷



Join us for worship!

Sunday Service Times

9:00, 10:00 and 11:00 a.m

June 17

Psalm 13

Songs of Life Part 3:

Ain't No Sunshine

Rev. Carla Aday Preaching

June 24

Psalm 23

Songs of Life Part 4:

You've Got a Friend

Rev. Carla Aday Preaching

July 1

Psalm 30

Songs of Life Part 5

Dr. Mike Graves Preaching

Worship on the Lawn

Worship on the lawn continues at 9:00 a.m. through Sun., Aug. 12. Join us in this beautiful worship space as we welcome guest musicians, share in communion, and hear a message of hope and grace. Come as you are – ride your bike, bring your dog or walk to worship. Sidewalk chalk and bubbles will be out for children to enjoy. Even if you don't normally attend the 9:00 a.m. service, join us in this unique setting sometime this summer. 🍷

Adult Classes and Group Fellowship Opportunities

Amani Choir

Our interfaith and intercultural singing group, formed in partnership with Della Lamb Community Services, meets Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. at the Kansas City University Alumni Center. Singers of any skill level are invited to join this group. Please email Corey Meyer at coreym@cccckc.org if you wish to join.

Meditation

Meditation is offered in our George Gordon Prayer Room on Wednesdays at noon. All are welcome. Begins with a brief introduction to meditation, followed by 20 minutes of meditating and five minutes of sharing. Those who are able may choose to spend a few more minutes on reflection.

Metro Mission Serve and Share Collection Connection

We are collecting school supplies for Grace United Community Ministries (GUCM), including pencils, paper (spiral notebooks appreciated), and simple calculators (such as those available at Dollar Stores). GUCM works with families and individuals in Northeast Kansas City, empowering them to break the cycle of poverty. Programs include after school tutoring and summer camps. Please leave items in the Parlor during the month of June.

Food Drive is June 17

The next Virginia Reed Food Drive is Sun., June 17. You may bring grocery items to church or donate by marking monetary gifts "Food Drive" and those will be received through our offering and in the parlor on June 17. Donate anytime by texting "Food" to 816-839-9410.

Northeast KC Summer Concert Series

Come join our Northeast Kansas City neighbors in Concourse Park for a free summer concert series every 3rd Friday of the month starting this June. Hosted by Northeast Arts KC, this event is a wonderful opportunity to play, get to know, and enjoy music with our neighbors with whom we do mission and outreach work in Northeast KC. For more information visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/northeastartskc

Fall Houston Mission Trip

Looking for an opportunity to serve over Labor Day Weekend? Corey Meyer and Mike Graves will lead a long-weekend trip, August 30th to Sept. 3 to Houston for hurricane recovery work with Disciples Home Missions. Please email Corey Meyer at coreym@cccckc.org for more information.

Music Series

Kantorei Summer Choral Institute Concert, Sat., June 30, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary. We are pleased to host the final concert of the Kantorei Summer Choral Institute. Kantorei is a non-profit choral institution based in Kansas City, MO.

Organist Christopher Houlihan will perform in the Sanctuary on Tues., July 3 at 2:00 p.m. Houlihan has performed at Disney Concert Hall with principal brass of the Los Angeles Philharmonic; the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia and at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. He was appointed to the John Rose College Organist-and-Directorship Distinguished Chair of Chapel Music at Trinity College in Hartford, CT, in 2017, succeeding his teacher John Rose. He was previously artist-in-residence at Trinity, as well as Director of Music and Organist at the Church of the Holy Apostles in Manhattan.



The concert, featuring music of Robert Schumann, Herbert Howells, and César Franck, is underwritten by the James and Carlene Neihart Family in memory of Carlene Neihart.

Mrs. Neihart received a bachelor's degree in piano and organ from Pittsburg State and a master's degree from KU. She attended Eastman School of Music and coached privately with French organists Andre' Marchal and Jean Langlais. Throughout her concert career, Mrs. Neihart performed 400+ recitals throughout Canada, Europe, and the U.S., including six AGO conventions. She also served several Kansas City congregations including St. Andrew's Episcopal; Central Presbyterian; Unity on the Plaza; and the New Reform Temple.

The concert is one of two that will be livestreamed during the AGO convention. Tickets are available online: <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/producer/3176883>

Join the Cookie Ministry

Pick up a bag on Sunday and return it with two dozen home-baked cookies, brownie bites and/or homemade breads cut into quarters for Sunday fellowship. Return filled bags to baskets in the Parlor next Sunday. Cookies are needed every week and will be frozen for use in coming weeks.



a message from staff

Community Camp

By Anne Haraughty, Ministry Coordinator



A group of 52 members and friends of Country Club Christian church attended Community Camp this past week. Some of the campers have been coming to Community Camp for 30 years, and others came to Camp for the very first time

this year!

All have been experiencing the beauty of the Rocky Mountains in many ways this week. Many campers explored the Rocky Mountains by hiking to Bear Lake, Spruce Lake, and Emerald Lake. Others trotted around the YMCA grounds on horseback. Several decorated one-of-a-kind artistic creations in the craft store. A few played golf or went fishing. Many enjoyed shopping in downtown Estes Park. All have delighted in the fellowship of friends and families of Country Club Christian Church in a relaxed, community-oriented setting.

If you'd like to experience all that Community Camp offers next year, we would love to share this experience with you. Registration for 2019 is open and available online at <http://www.cccckc.org/community-camp-2019/>. If you have any questions, please let me know. 🍷



Our Church Family

In Sympathy

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

Maurice Brownlee
Clayton Hasser
Merceda Larkin
Barbara Oberlander

In Honor of

Margie and Don Bonner's 70th Wedding Anniversary (Parents of Karen Gallagher)
Alicia and James Starr

Memorials and Tributes

Memorial gifts and gifts honoring loved ones 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.

Clayton Hasser, for Mission Work with Della Lamb

Gary and Delores Allen
Terrence and Tama Byrnes
Barbara Carter
Becky Sturgis Dyer and Janet Sturgis Bruns
Hannah Fenley
Barbara George
Sharon Hildebrand
Lance and Pat Jessee
Susan Icenogle Lytton
Joetta Melton
Sarah Thomas

Clayton Hasser, for Mission Trips

Cindy and Randy Ireby

Student Ministries

Middle School Mission Trip

Sun., Aug. 5 - Wed., Aug. 8, St. Louis, MO

Students completing grades 6-8 this school year will stay at the Urban Mission Inn housed at Union Avenue Christian Church in St. Louis. For full details, email April at aprilb@cccckc.org.

Middle/High School Summer Happenings

Youth (finishing 6th-12th grades) are invited to summer gatherings including swimming, games, and outdoor fun. Sunday evenings, June 24, July 8 and 22, from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Save the dates and watch the weekly email to youth families for full details.

FLASH MOVIE

Be aware! Check your texts and emails for a 24 hour heads-up about meeting Chuck for a movie on the Plaza. This summer Chuck will text info about meeting for a movie with 24 hours notice and full details. Your movie ticket will be on us - you bring money for snacks!! The first one is coming soon so pay attention!! Middle and High School students will be invited. To make sure you are included, send April aprilb@cccckc.org the cell number where you want to receive the invite.



The high school mission trip team was commissioned in worship on Sun., June 10. The team travels to Nashville June

Sunday School for 6th-12th Graders meets every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in Rooms 205 and 202.

Want to volunteer with Student Ministries?

Contact Lori Bennett, Chair of the Student Ministries Team, at lorib77@me.com.

Children and Families

Incredible Faith in Children's Sunday School

From beginning to end the Bible is filled with INCREDIBLE stories of heroes whose faith in God allowed them to be used by God to make a difference in the world.

Sunday School classes will explore various biblical characters and come to know the many INCREDIBLE men and women in the bible.



Service Circus – Vacation Bible School.



Sign up now for Service Circus: Seeing God in Acts of Service. Dates are June 25-27 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Programming is for children ages 3 through 5th grade. Register and volunteer at www.cccckc.org/vbs2018/

Children's Collection Connection

As part of our Service Circus themed Vacation Bible School, we are collecting Box Tops for Hartman Elementary School. We are also collecting travel sized toiletries (shampoos, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, etc.), which will be packaged into hygiene kits to be shared with Micah Ministries. Donations can be placed near the Children's Collection Connection display in the second floor Children's Wing.



Backyard Bash is so much fun!



Food, fellowship and fun continues at our last Backyard Bash on Wed., June 20. Cheesy Street Food Truck will be here from 5:30-7:30 p.m. serving gourmet grilled cheeses. Cost is \$5 per person or \$15 per family. Break-out activity tracks run from 6:30-7:30 p.m.



New Members Welcomed, Infant Dedicated on June 10

On Sun., June 10, we celebrated the gift of membership and welcomed several new members into our church family.



Teresa Williams, New Member Host: Annie Brabson



Katie Quisenberry and Jason Wolfe, New Member Hosts: Rick and Nancy Kupzyk



Karmen and Will Major with Lincoln and Mira. The Majors joined the church and also dedicated Mira. New Member Hosts: Amy and James Guthrey

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SAVE THE DATES



Backyard Bash— Wed., June 20, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Outdoor Worship— Outdoor worship continues through Aug. 12. Join us on the front lawn during the 9:00 a.m. hour.

Celebration of Service— June 24, special recognition in all three worship services, and lunch on the front lawn after the 11 a.m. service.

Vacation Bible School— June 25-27. For children ages 3 through 5th grade.

Max Deweese Golf Tournament— Fri., Sept. 21, at Swope Memorial Golf Course

Community Camp— July 27 – Aug. 3, 2019. Online registration available starting June 2018.

For the full church calendar, visit our website at

CCCCKC.org

Follow us!

