



COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

From the Senior Minister Marjorie's Story



Rev. Carla Aday

I have a handwritten copy of a history presentation about our church. It was written and presented by Marjorie, a charter member of our church. She was

a little girl, living a stone's throw from the church, in the early 1900s. She recalls that the land where our church stands was part of the Wornall Homestead.

You may be able to picture the Wornall House at 61st and Wornall. Picture all the land around the church as open prairie. Then overnight, the troops moved in and set up tents and began training for battle in World War I. Shortly thereafter, houses began popping up, the streetcar was extended south and missionaries recruited a handful of folks to start a church. They met in makeshift places, including above the drugstore in Brookside, until they broke ground to build a church at 61st and Ward Parkway.

Marjorie grew up in a church where only men served on the board, prayed at the Table or preached. Now women and men are valued equally as God's agents of grace. Marjorie may have occasionally visited the Independence Boulevard Christian Church where many elite leaders of the city worshiped in the light of Tiffany Stained Glass windows. Now

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Save the date for the 2019 Celebration Dinner and Auction on Fri., Mar. 8 from 6:30-10:00 p.m. at Boulevard Brewery, 2501 Southwest Boulevard. Tickets and benefactor packages are available now at cccckc.org/2019-dinner-auction/. Do you have an item you'd like to donate? We are looking for lots of fun and unique items, such as vacation homes, tickets to sporting events or concerts, gift certificates, jewelry, artwork and more! Fill out the form on the web page to submit your item.

Pathways to Learning

"Race, Equity and the Christian Response"

Pathways to Learning is a series of elective offerings open to everyone, focusing upon timely topics on the Bible, spirituality, current events, family life and technology. 10:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m. in the Social Hall. This series will examine race and equity in our lives, our city and our Christianity.



Sun., Feb. 10 – Guest speaker PaKou Her, Tseng Development Group, will lead a conversation on what faith communities can do to create positive changes to empower people on both sides of the racial divide to see possibilities to grow together.

Sun., Feb. 17 – A conversation about social justice. How do we approach social justice as a helper not an enabler? How do we learn to listen to the needs of our partners?

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From the Senior Minister

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we occasionally go to Independence Boulevard Christian Church to serve the hungry at Micah Ministry or donate socks and coats for the homeless. Marjorie may have still been around when we began broadcasting the sermons over the local radio. But now we live stream the service to thousands around the globe.

I wish I could talk with Marjorie. I would thank her for writing down her memories but also for helping to build the church that now strongly stands on this corner. I would ask her what she think about her church today with all its changes. And I would thank her for paving the way for my generation. The crazy thing is that someday, someone will find our notes and pictures and wish they could talk to us. They will marvel at how different the world has become. Church will be something we cannot even imagine at this moment. But the spirit that blows then, will be the same one that you and I experience, and the same one that drew Marjorie in. For the spirit of God embraces us and propels us forward.

Please see related articles about our upcoming Centennial.

Grace and peace,

Carla

Couple Communication Offered in February

Couple Communication teaches you and your partner practical communication skills to produce and sustain a vital partnership. Develop confidence to communicate with your partner effectively, creating better resolutions to conflict and increasing satisfaction in your relationship. Led by Lauren Weinhold and Scott Fuller. Meets Mondays from 6:30-8:00 p.m., Feb. 4-25. Couples who were married at the church may take the course for free. The fee is \$35 for all others. RSVP to weddings@cccckc.org by Jan. 25 to reserve your spot.

Preparing for our 100th Anniversary

Centennial Conversations

As Country Club Christian Church makes plans to celebrate its centennial during 2020-2021, you're invited to a Centennial Conversation to talk and dream about the church's next 100 years. Join Mary McClure and David Forsee in the library on Sun., Feb. 17, at either 10:00 or 11:00 a.m. to be a part of this discussion.

Steering Team

A steering team led by Peter and Lesley Holt and honorary chairs Tom Van Dyke and Kay Barnes has already begun meeting to plan this momentous occasion. They are joined by: Linna Place – History; Leeann Blundell – Events; Dan Jensen – Building; David Forsee, Mary McClure and Amy Guthrey – Gifts.

Guest Gathering

Whether you're a new visitor, or you've been attending for a while, we invite you to join us for pastry and coffee on Sun., Feb. 17 at 10:00 a.m. in the Bride's Room. This is an opportunity to learn more about us in a casual setting. A member of our clergy will guide you through our values, traditions, and beliefs and you'll discover ways to connect with our service opportunities, classes, small groups, and of course, our members. We would love to become your church family. RSVP to Barbara George, 816- 381-9251.

Service Partners: New Opportunity to Serve

Among the many ways to serve at Country Club Christian Church is a new opportunity to become a Service Partner. The Service Partners program gives you an opportunity to become involved in the life of the church at a lower commitment level than that of an Elder or Deacon. Any church member or participating visitor is eligible for this team, the responsibilities for which include serving communion or collecting offering in worship for at least a one-month period during a one-year term. Meet new people and develop a greater connection to your church. If you are interested in becoming a part of this team, contact Brian Campbell at brian.campbell@sprint.com.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in May

If you are interested in the Pilgrimage to the Holy Land trip being led by Rev. Carla Aday, Dr. Mike Graves and Dr. David May from May 20-29, contact Dr. Graves today at mikeg@cccckc.org or 816-381-9255 for more information. This trip starts in Galilee, coming down the Jordan valley, and culminating with some of the most cherished sites in and around Jerusalem. Cost is \$3,400 per person, double occupancy, and it includes round trip airfare, ground transportation, hotels, and two meals per day, as well as entrance into all the sites and gratuities. Currently, there is no waiting list and the chances are good that some spots will open up.



reflections

The Stillness of Snow

Tyler Heston, Minister to Youth



The snow, even days after it has fallen and as it turns brown and black from foot and road traffic, is absolutely wonderful to me. The frozen precipitation paints fresh beauty into familiar landscapes. Snow days give an opportunity to find pause from normal activities and spend time with family and friends outside sledding and making snow-people, or inside drinking hot chocolate and watching movies. My favorite effect of the snow, though, is the hush it breathes over the places it falls.

People keep reminding me that the thrill of snow will wear off (this recent snowfall is easily twice as much as I ever saw living in Tennessee and Texas), and that I'll soon find myself frustrated by the power outages, frigid chill, and other dangers and inconveniences of winter weather. I'm sure the charm will dwindle, but I'm not sure if the quiet of snow will ever lose its magic.

Whenever I walk outside, whether it's through the park with a friend or down the block from my car to my apartment, I can feel the snow absorbing the sounds of the city around me. This quiet is more than aesthetic pleasure; it's a call to be present to the world around me. The stillness brought by the snow reminds me to myself be still.

I've been reading Hermann Hesse's *Siddhartha* this month, a short novel that tells of a restless young man's spiritual quest for wholeness and enlightenment. There's one moment where the main character, named Siddhartha, leaves one religious community to follow his own way. Hesse writes,

Siddhartha learned something new on every step of his path, for the world was transformed and he was enthralled... He saw trees, stars, animals, clouds, rainbows, rocks, weeds, flowers, brook and river, the sparkle of dew on bushes in the morning; birds sang, bees hummed, the wind blew gently across the rice fields. All this, colored and in a thousand different forms had always been there... The world was beautiful when he looked at in this way— without any seeking, so simple, so childlike... All this had always been and he had never seen it; he was never present. Now he was present and belonged to it.

The stillness of the snow sends me to a similar place; it stills my spirit and shows me that I belong to the world in which I live. Psalm 46 contains a well-known line from the Hebrew Bible: "Be still and know that I am God." In stillness, when we are truly present to the things around us, we see clearly the reality of things and hear God's quiet voice telling us that we belong.

According to the church calendar, we are now in the season of Epiphany, a time to seek the things of God in the world around us, just as the magi sought and found the Christ child in Matthew 2. The stillness of snow invites us into an epiphany experience, inviting us to be present to the God who is pulsing through the beauty and brilliance of the world to which we belong. ✨



Join us for worship!

Sunday Service Times

9:01, 10:00 and 11:00 a.m

January 20

Begin Again, Part 3

What Did They See

Luke 4:14-21

Rev. Carla Aday Preaching

January 27

Begin Again, Part 4

Luke 5:1-11

Rev. Carla Aday Preaching

February 3

Rev. Carla Aday Preaching

Do You Follow Us?



Adult Classes and Group Fellowship Opportunities

Monday Evening Classes with Dr. Graves

Dr. Mike Graves begins a winter/spring series of Monday evening classes starting Jan. 28. All are at 7:00 p.m. in the Social Hall.

The Scandalous Act of Interpreting the Bible

Jan. 28 and Feb. 4

Bible scholars often note that passages in the Bible don't "say" anything; they have to be interpreted. In the past, naïve approaches to reading led to burning witches and condoning slavery, what we might call textual harassment. In this interactive course, we'll examine the scandal of what it means to interpret the Bible.

From Pew to Pulpit

Feb. 18, 25

Sermons mostly go in one direction, from pulpit to pew. Preachers talk and the people listen. But preaching can go in both directions, and once did in the early church. Together, we will think about how preachers prepare sermons and work on one that Dr. Graves will preach on Sunday morning, March 3.

Walking with Jesus in Lent

Mar. 11, 18, 25, Apr. 1, 8

Christians often give things up for Lent, like chocolate or television. Others consider adding practices, things like daily Scripture reading or meditation. While the Sermon on the Mount is not explicitly about Lent, it is often considered the very heart of Jesus' teachings. In this five-week series, we will walk through the Sermon on the Mount, to see what Jesus' teaching might say about the Lenten journey and spiritual practices.

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. . No classes weeks of spring break (Mar. 12/13), or Holy Week (Apr. 16/17), and ends week of Apr. 30/May 1.



Faith and Grief Lunch

Tues., Feb. 7, Noon-1:00 p.m. February's speaker will focus on her particular experience of infant loss, but table conversation will open up to grief of all kinds. Complimentary lunch is provided. Hosted at Village Presbyterian Church, 6641 Mission Road, and co-sponsored by Country Club Christian Church. More information at www.facebook.com/FaithandGriefKC.

Faithpub

Hosted by Dr. Mike Graves, this popular men's group meets for beer and conversation on a host of spiritual topics, with a guest speaker each session. Gatherings are at Bier Station, 120 E. Gregory Blvd. Wed., Feb 20: Rev. Darryl Burton, an associate pastor at Church of the Resurrection who was falsely imprisoned for more than twenty years and now is an advocate for social justice. Thurs., March 21: Judge Stephen Bough, a member of Country Club Christian Church who is a federal judge and will discuss restorative justice and the federal reentry program. Thurs., April 11: Rev. Tyler Heston, Minister to Youth at Country Club Christian Church Thurs., May 16: Dr. Milton Horne, emeritus professor of Old Testament at William Jewell College



Faithbistro

For women of all ages, with guest speakers on spirituality and real-life issues. Connect with other women looking for conversations that matter. 7:00-8:00 p.m., Red Door Grill. Feb. 28 – Kay Barnes, former mayor of Kansas City and member of Country Club Christian Church Mar. 28- Rev. Shanna Steitz, Senior Minister at Community Christian Church on the Plaza Apr. 25 – Rev. Carla Aday, Senior Minister at Country Club Christian Church May 30 – Wendie Brockhaus, curator of The Open Table, a dinner church ministry of Second Presbyterian Church



Music Series

Kansas City Guitar Society Casual Concerts in the Chapel on Sundays at 3:30 p.m. Free and open to the public. Feb. 10 – Ryan Head

Kansas City Guitar Society Artist Series Fri., Mar. 1, 7:30 p.m. Rupert Boyd. General admission: \$20; KCGS and church members: \$17; Students: \$15

Enneagram Class

Dr. George Gordon, Minister of Congregational Care Emeritus, will offer an Enneagram class Thursdays, Mar. 14-Apr. 11 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in the Youth Center. The Enneagram is a study of personality types and potential. This class is co-sponsored by the Shepherd's Center and is open to church members.



a message from staff

Reflecting on God's Love

Lindsay Howes, Director of Children's Ministries



Snow, snow, snow! It has been beautiful and I hope you have been able to enjoy the quiet and stillness it brought. We are excited about all the fun things we have planned for Children's Ministry this semester, we are bringing back more Parent's Night's Out (which are amazing and help our youth programming), several Club Kids

outings and the Omaha Zoo overnight trip (woohoo!) and of course great times during Sunday School.

With all of the hustle and bustle of the New Year, new routines, new planning, new goal setting, I hope you can take some time to reflect on God's love and abundant grace. If you need a reminder, step outside during the next round of snow, and listen to the quiet, the soft fall of the flakes, maybe even stick out your tongue and catch a few and share this poem with a child you love. ❄️

The Meaning of the Snowman

*The white snow stands for the purity of our soul, filled with God's grace.
The circular snow balls making the body, remind us of Gods everlasting love.*

*The pieces of coal for the eyes, mouth and buttons, symbolize Gods power.
The carrot used for the nose, remind us that God gives us everything we need to live and grow.*

The scarf reminds us of the warmth of God's tender care.

The top hat reminds us to keep faith a top priority.

The arms outstretched to us, as God's always are.

May your heart be warmed by the good news of God's great love for you!



Our Church Family

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.

MaryAnn Liveley, mother of Judy Schaefer
Jill Reynolds

Lou Ann Snyder
Bill and Laurel Mace
Dolores Ufford

Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn Named Minister to Children and Families

The Congregational Board has called Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn to serve as Minister to Children and Families, a half time position she had held on an interim basis since January 2018. "Catherine brings compassionate wisdom, pastoral insight and a spirit of creative teamwork to all that she does," said Rev. Carla Aday. The Personnel Committee was enthusiastic about welcoming Rev Stark-Corn back to our staff.

Catherine served as a minister at Country Club Christian Church from 2001-2013 working in singles ministries and later with children, youth and families. She has worked with children the majority of her adult life in roles as an educator as well as minister. Catherine is married to Brian Corn and they have two sons, Taylor, a freshman at Drake University, and Spencer a sophomore at Lincoln College Preparatory Academy.

Youth Ministries

Youth Group Main Event Outing Postponed
The Jan. 20 Youth Group outing to Main Event has been postponed until Jan. 27 from 5:00 - 8:00 pm. Stay home, stay warm and cheer on the Chiefs! See you next Sunday. Cost is \$20 for games and pizza supper. RSVP to aprilb@cccckc.org.

Pastors' Class

The Pastors' Class is an annual series for 6th graders (or older youth) who are interested in learning more about what it means to be Christian and our church community. This year's class will meet on Wednesday nights from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. from Feb. 13 to Apr. 10. At the end of the class, participants will have the opportunity to be baptized and join the church on Palm Sunday, Apr. 14. Contact Tyler (tylerh@cccckc.org) for more information or to sign up.

Lock-In

High school youth are invited to a lock-in on Sat., Feb., 16, at 6:30 p.m. We will eat and play Pickleball at Chicken N Pickle and spend the night at the church before worshipping together on Sunday morning. Cost is \$25 (financial assistance available); RSVP to April Booth at aprilb@cccckc.org.

Chi Rho Midwinter Retreat at Tall Oaks

The Midwinter retreat, Feb. 22-23, will be a great time for middle school youth (grades 6-8) to gather with others from Disciples of Christ churches across the Kansas City area for games, outdoor activities, and worship. The cost is \$75 before Feb. 12/\$80 after. Registration and more information is available at this link. With questions, contact Rev. Kristin Dow at kristin@newsongkc.org, or Tyler at tylerh@cccckc.org, who will be attending as a chaperone.

Summer Mission Trips

High School: Ecuador - June 6-12 - High schoolers will partner with FEDICE for service-learning projects near Otavalo, Ecuador.

Middle School: Des Moines - June 23-26 - Middle schoolers will travel to Des Moines, Iowa, to partner with different nonprofits fighting hunger and poverty for service-learning projects . For more information about either trip or to register, contact Tyler (tylerh@cccckc.org).

Children and Families

Club Kids Main Event Outing Postponed
The Jan. 20 Club Kids outing to Main Event has been postponed until Jan. 27 from 5:00 - 8:00 pm. Stay home, stay warm and cheer on the Chiefs! See you next Sunday. Cost is \$20 for games and pizza supper. RSVP to aprilb@cccckc.org.

Parents' Night Out

Youth will provide a Parents' Night Out for children 3rd grade and under on Fri., Feb. 8 from 6:00-8:30 p.m. at church. Snacks provided; please serve your child dinner at home. Children 2 and under will be with childcare staff; 3 and older will be with youth and adult leaders. Cost is \$10 per child with a \$30 max per family. Proceeds support youth group missions. RSVP to April at aprilb@cccckc.org.

Children's Musical

Sun., Mar 3 • 10:00 a.m. Children kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to participate in the musical performance. Books and Practice CDs will be provided. Rehearsals are on Sunday mornings at 9:45 am on the second floor.

Omaha Zoo Aquarium Overnight Trip

Club Kids (grades 3-5) will go on an overnight trip to the Omaha Zoo Aquarium, March 9-10. Save the date! Watch for more information.

MOPS

Mothers of Preschoolers (birth – K) meets the second Wednesday of each month during the school year in Rm. 205, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. For more information or to register contact April aprilb@cccckc.org.



Children explore the story of *Jesus the Boy in the Temple* through woodworking, during Sunday School.



Metro Mission

Virginia Reed Food Drive

Our next Virginia Reed Food Drive is Jan. 20. This month's focus is canned soup. Bring canned goods to our donation points in the parlor, the chapel and at the doors or write a check and mark it "food drive." Place in the offering plate during worship or place in the box in the Parlor. 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.

Micah Ministry

Serve dinner at Micah Ministry from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., on Mon., Feb. 11. Meet in the chapel lot at 4:30 p.m. to carpool to Independence Boulevard Christian Church. Return to church at 7:30 p.m. Questions? Contact Jackie Cunningham at 816-246-6202.



Save the Date for Grace at Work

The spring Grace at Work service day is Sat., Mar. 30. Join us as we take on spring cleaning projects on our church campus. Sign up soon!

Puerto Rico Mission Trip

We have a spots open for the Puerto Rico Mission Trip scheduled for March. 17-24. This trip is in partnership with the Iglesia Cristiana (Disciples de Cristo) en Puerto Rico to work with our neighbors in Puerto Rico on Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria disaster recovery. For more information visit www.cccckc.org/puerto-rico-mission-trip or contact Corey Meyer at coreym@cccckc.org



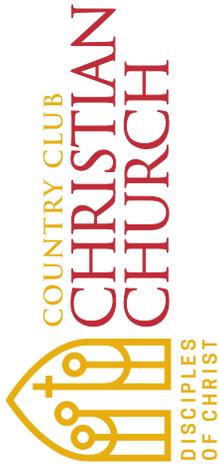
Global Ministries Intern Cara McKinney shares about her time spent in Chiapas, Mexico, at Melel Xojobal, a nonprofit organization that works with indigenous youth and children. Cara has designed and led workshops with indigenous teenagers focusing on sexual and reproductive rights, living without violence, life planning, and human rights. Each year, our church gives to Global Ministries to support the work of Melel and many other organizations across the world.



Souper Bowl of Caring

Sun., Feb. 3, our youth will be raising money for the Virginia Reed Food Drive as part of the Souper Bowl of Caring, a national effort that empowers youth and unites communities around the time of the big game to help those in need. Com eto worship prepared to drop your change or a few dollars into the collection buckets.

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
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Permit No. 1498



6101 Ward Parkway
Kansas City, MO 64113

Return Service Requested

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Dr. Mike Graves
Scholar in Residence

Rev. Tyler Heston
Minister to Youth

Rev. Corey Meyer
Director of Mission Partnerships

Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn
Interim Minister to Children, Youth,
and Families

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Paul Cutelli
Director of Technology

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SAVE THE DATES



Club Kids and Youth Group Go to Main Event

Sun., Jan. 27, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. Grades 3-12. \$20 per person includes pizza dinner. RSVP required; email April at aprilb@cccckc.org.

Souper Bowl of Caring

Sun., Feb. 3

Parents' Night Out

Fri., Feb. 8 from 6:00-8:30 p.m. at church.

Ash Wednesday

Mar., 6, 6:00 p.m.

Celebration Dinner and Auction

Fri., Mar. 8, 7:00 p.m., Boulevard Brewery

Grace at Work

Sat., Mar. 30. Join us for a fun-filled half-day service event open to all ages and abilities.

Easter

Sun., Apr. 21, 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

May 20-29. Led by Rev. Carla Aday, Dr. Mike Graves and Dr. David May. Contact Dr. Graves today at mikeg@cccckc.org or 816-381-9255 for more information.

For the full church calendar, visit our website at

CCCCKC.org

Follow us!

