



COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Mar. 15, 2019 | Vol. 93 No. 6

COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

From the Senior Minister A Lifetime of Faith



Rev. Carla Aday

My father in law, Jacob Ehman, was a German farm boy in North Dakota. He met my mother-in-law, Helen, a German farm girl, on a Ferris wheel ride

in Ashley, North Dakota. Helen and Jake bought a small mobile home and hauled it to New York, parking it near the seminary where he studied to become a pastor, as there was no married student housing available.

He served churches in Oklahoma, Montana, Iowa and Michigan and traveled extensively in the Midwest pastoring other pastors. It wouldn't make sense to say he loved the church. He didn't exist, save the church. Even in retirement, he taught two Bible classes a week until he was past 90. He survived cancer, heart attacks. He raised four children, all of whom encountered their own bumps in life. After all four kids graduated college, he supported Helen, with her 8th grade education, in getting her own college degree and launching the teaching career of her dreams.

There was always a twinkle in his eye. Even as a brain tumor grew and his body ceased to move, he maintained a sense of humor and exhibited a gentle graciousness to his caregivers. Last Friday, his two daughters, his pastor, and his nurse, stood around his

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Grace at Work

The spring Grace at Work service day is the morning of Sat., Mar. 30. Join us as we take on spring cleaning projects on our campus and projects with partner organizations. Breakfast at 8:00 a.m., projects begin at 9:00 a.m., concludes at noon. Childcare available upon request. Sign-up in the Parlor or at www.cccckc.org/save-date-grace-work.



Spring Fling is Apr. 7



Save the date for our annual Easter egg hunt, Sun., Apr. 7. Starts at noon, lunch, egg hunt, petting zoo and other fun activities for children. Please invite your neighbors and friends.

Pick-Up Choir and Orffestra Opportunities

Share your musical talents on Sun., Mar. 31. The Pick-Up Choir will meet at 10:00 a.m. in the choir room to sing "Abide with Me" during the 11:00 a.m. service. This is your opportunity to sing with Dr. Paul Tucker and not have to attend a Wednesday rehearsal to do so. The Pick-Up Orffestra will meet at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary to rehearse under the direction of Tepring Crocker. The ensemble will also present a musical offering in the 11:00 a.m. service that day. All interested parties strongly encouraged!

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From the Senior Minister

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bed singing hymns as he transitioned from this life. He opened his eyes in surprise, took a couple more breaths and was gone. Though we are grateful for his 95 years and supported his wish to depart this earthly journey, we are still deeply saddened to lose him.

His grandchildren include a US Army Colonel who has been tapped to become a General, a missionary teacher in the Philippines, a nurse, two teachers, a musician, and two business executives. But what he would want you to know about his eight grandchildren is that every single one of them is involved in the life of his/her church and devoted to growing in faithfulness. Oh he would love them the same if they didn't find their home inside the house of God. But it brought him joy to know that they felt the Spirit's claim of love.

We have a black and white picture on our fridge of him kissing Grandma, his beloved wife of 66 years. I don't know what happens when we die. But what gives me hope is picturing them kissing again.

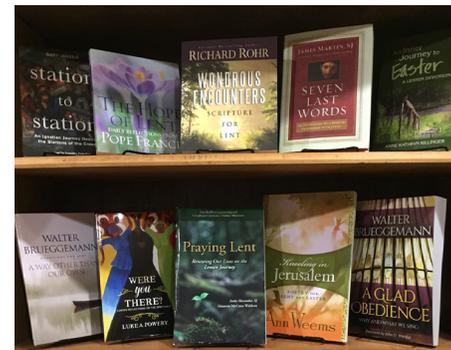
Grace and peace,

Carla

Easter Items in The Well

The Well has new books and gift items for Easter and spring. Check them out. They would make perfect Easter gifts for your children or grandchildren!

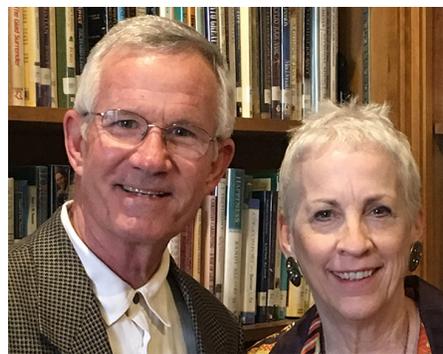
Enhance your Lenten journey with daily devotions. A wide variety of devotional books for Lent are available, by Ann Weems, Richard Rohr, Walter Breuggemann, Pope Francis and others.



Welcome New Members



Liz and Sam Copeland.
Hosts: Kathy and Brandon Nakada



Paula and Todd Donoho.
Hosts: Beckie and Steve Rogers

Personnel Updates

Dina Pannabecker Evans will be getting married on March 31 to Michael Hoefflich and has indicated her intention to retire early from her position of Executive Director of Operations and Co-Director of Music. Dina has faithfully served the church for four years and we will miss her talented leadership. However we also celebrate this new chapter of her life. She and Michael plan to travel frequently both with his work and for pleasure.

A search committee for the music position will be chaired by Brian Campbell who has chaired the Music Council for several years and currently serves as Elder Chair and as a member of the Personnel Committee. A highly qualified person has accepted the church's offer to serve in the half-time position, Executive Director of Operations. Staffing transitions are expected to occur summer of 2019. Please watch for further information in the newsletter.



Renewed

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



The final pile of snow has left my yard. It was in a corner where it had accumulated higher than other spots due to windy days and stayed there far too long due to lack of sun. The disappearance of that lingering snow feels like a promise that spring is on the way. I cannot recall in recent years a time when I have been more eager for the sun, warmer days and the color green. It has been a long winter – it is not just the cold and snow that has made it too long – but with our modern weather apps the constant need to check what is coming, when it is coming and thinking through all the contingency plans to deal with the weather. Accompanying all this focus on weather has come for me a renewed look at our natural world and our role in being keepers of creation.

Some years ago a friend gave me a copy of *The Green Bible*. It is a standard version of the Bible but all the words, passages, and stories that have to do with creation and how we should confront the environment are written in green ink. It is very telling and a visual reminder about how central the created world is to the biblical stories that connect us with our Creator. I feel drawn to revisit this particular publication of sacred texts as I embrace with a sense of renewal this spring as it emerges and wraps us in the promise of new life.

I worry about how to best care for the earth, how to best nurture the living world that all life depends on for our very existence. It is so easy to become overwhelmed with all the needs in the world – both human and environmental; so many needs that we can become paralyzed by where to begin. Yet I find words that call me to keep at it, shared in an essay by Calvin B. DeWitt as a preface to *The Green Bible*. He comments, “Our ultimate purpose is to honor God as creator in such a way that Christian environmental stewardship is part and parcel to everything we do. Our goal should be to make tending the garden of creation, in all its aspects, an unquestioned and all pervasive part of our service to each other, to our community, to God’s world.”

Along with the awakening of my home garden from this long winter, I seek to awaken anew to my role as a keeper of creation. As we journey through this season of Lent, where we reflect on our relationship with God, I will be mindful of our God as Creator and this amazing and fragile earth that has been placed in our hands.

*The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it,
The world, and those who live in it...*
Psalm 24:1

*The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it,
The world, and those who live in it...*
Psalm 24:1



Join us for worship!

Sunday Service Times

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

March 17

Spiritual and Religious, Part 2
Exodus 20:8-11

Dr. Mike Graves Preaching

March 24

Spiritual and Religious, Part 3
Matthew 6:7-13

Dr. Mike Graves Preaching

March 31

Spiritual and Religious, Part 4
Rev. Carla Aday Preaching

Leadership Nominations Underway

The nominating process to fill elected positions for the 2019-2020 church year is underway. Your participation is invaluable in identifying a diverse representation of leaders from our congregation. Nomination forms are available in the parlor on Sundays, or online at www.cccckc.org/leadership-nominations. Deadline is Mar. 31.

Do You Follow Us?

Adult Classes and Group Fellowship Opportunities

Monday Evening Classes with Dr. Graves

Walking with Jesus in Lent

Mondays, Mar. 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. 7:00 p.m. in the Social Hall.

Pathways to Learning

Praying the Lord's Prayer Again for the First Time

Led by Dr. Mike Graves. Mar. 31, Apr. 7 – For nearly two millennia, Christians have been praying the model prayer of Jesus, especially in worship each Sunday. But familiarity can breed contempt, or at least complacency. In these interactive sessions, we will take a closer look at this beloved prayer, which turns out to be full of surprises. [Note: This is a condensed version of a class Dr. Graves taught on Monday nights last fall.]

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.

Faithpub

Hosted by Dr. Mike Graves, this popular men's group meets for beer and conversation on a variety of spiritual topics, with a guest speaker each session. Gatherings are at Bier Station, 120 E. Gregory Blvd., 7:00-8:00 p.m. Thurs., Mar. 21: guest speaker 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.



Faithbistro

For women of all ages, with guest speakers on spirituality and real-life issues. Connect with other women looking for conversations that matter. Speaker begins at 7:00 p.m., come early for dinner. New venue, Blue Moose in Prairie Village. **Thurs., Mar. 28-** Rev. Shanna Steitz, Senior Minister at Community Christian Church on the Plaza

Music Series

Kansas City Guitar Society Casual Concerts – Sunday afternoons, 3:30-4:30 p.m., Combs Chapel. Free and open to the public.

Mar. 17, 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. – Aleia Gonzalez

April 14, 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. – Daniel Krieg

Green Team Gardening

The Green Team will start gathering to prepare the church grounds for spring on Mon., Mar. 18 and will gather on Mondays at 5:30 p.m. and Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m. through October. Both will meet in the Chapel Lot. If you enjoy gardening you're invited to join this team. For more information contact Mary McClure at marymcclure@me.com.

Metro Mission

Virginia Reed Food Drive

The focus for March is crackers, cereal and jelly. Bring grocery items to church on Sun., Mar. 17, or donate by marking monetary gifts "Food Drive" and those will be received through our offering and in the parlor.

Collection Connection

During March we are collecting hand garden tools for Grace United. The tools will be used in the summer tutoring program involving 100 plus students from the Northeast Kansas City area. Grace United has a large community garden and they are planning to include gardening in the curriculum. Gloves and hand tools will be needed for the program. There are good prices for these items at The Dollar Store.

Micah Ministry

Serve dinner at Micah Ministry from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., on Mon., April 8. 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.

Puerto Rico Mission Trip Blog

A mission team will travel to Puerto Rico Mar. 17- 24 for hurricane disaster rebuilding, partnering with Iglesia Cristiana (Disciples de Cristo) en Puerto Rico, Week of Compassion, Disciples Volunteering and Global Ministries. During the trip, members of the team will be writing about their experiences and sharing photos at the mission trip blog. Follow along at cccckc.org/serve/serve-the-world/2019-puerto-rico-mission-trip-blog/.



The Puerto Rico Mission Trip team was commissioned in worship on Sun., Mar. 10.



a message from staff

Try Out Pick-Up Choir and Orffestra

Dina Pannabecker Evans, Executive Director of Operations



If you were in the sanctuary for the 11:00 a.m. service on Sun., Mar. 10, you heard Steve Bough make an announcement about the next scheduled Pick-Up Choir and Pick-Up Orffestra for Sun., Mar. 31.

Steve’s lively announcement started with his informing the congregation that they were about to participate in a test of their Christian Faith. The test included singing the concluding phrase of two songs that Steve bravely launched solo voce (“Jesus loves the little children . . .” and “Zacchaeus was a wee little man...”), and then repeat the clapping rhythm that Steve demonstrated (the “varsity” move). Turns out that it wasn’t really a test – it was a try-out and everyone passed. By their participation, the congregation was fully eligible to join the Pick-Up Choir and Orffestra.

I can attest that pitch-matching and reliable rhythms are important to the music of the church. What you don’t see from the pew on a Sunday morning is the way that the choir members minister to each other and the warm ways in which they welcome new folks to the fold. You don’t see how they quietly touch base on Wednesdays and Sundays to see how the week is going with their colleagues, and, tipped-off by the names on the choir calendar, sharing well-wishes with the people who have signed out for future rehearsals and services, noting their upcoming absence, and looking forward to their return.

Rehearsals will be at 10:00 a.m. in the choir room and the sanctuary (Orffestra), and the music will be offered directly following during the 11:00 a.m. service. If you wish to have a copy of the choir anthem – “Abide with Me” by Gilbert Martin – in advance, they are in a folder on the piano in the choir room so that you can sign a copy out.

Your musical skills will be an enhancement to the group – your heart to serve and care for others will make for the greatest dynamic in the room. 🍷

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.

Dr. Howard R. Woosley, D.D.S.

James and Mary Ann Arnett
Jeanne and Perry Cockayne, *for Congregational Care*
Dr. Gale Jones
Peggy Lane
Martha and Thomas Lieser
Susan Icenogle Lytton and Rick Lytton
Maureen McGinty
Ruth Rader
Janet Roberts
Karen and Robert Robinson
Virginia and Dick Smith
Richard and Suzanne Tye

Esther “Chris” Rice

James and Mary Ann Arnett
Lloyd and Elaine Christianson
Charles and Nancy Christianson
Sergie Ann Conklin
Beth Ingram
Jill Reynolds
C. Louise Strafer

FBI Special Agent Melissa S. Morrow

Cynthia Pinson

Jim Love

Ronilue Garrison
Carty and Peggy Johannsen

Lou Ann Snyder

Michael and Carmen Buckley
Donn and Kristine Kipka

Tom Gilcrest

Bob and Kay Moffat

Youth Ministries



Youth serve dinner and help with clothing needs at Micah Ministry on the second Monday evening of every month.

Sunday Evening Youth Group

6th - 12th graders

5:00 - 5:30 p.m. Youth Choir

5:30 - 6:00 p.m. Sunday Supper (\$3 suggested donation)

6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Group time (with separate activities for middle and for high schoolers)

Good Friday Service Project

Join us for a Good Friday service opportunity for Youth and Club Kids at the Urban Farming Guys from 1:15 to 4:00 p.m. on Fri., Apr. 19. The Urban Farming Guys are a nonprofit that helps disadvantaged communities rebuild from within by building local economy, capacity, and resiliency. We will support UFG through gardening and other service projects. Bring a water bottle, work gloves, clothes that can get dirty, and an eager spirit! We will meet in the parking lot after the Good Friday worship service at noon and return by 4:00 pm. RSVP to April at aprilb@cccckc.org.

Senior Recognition and Lunch

Sun., May 5. Save the date, more details to come.

Contact Tyler if you are or have a senior and have not received a notification.

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

Children's Musical

The children's musical, originally scheduled for Mar. 3, has been postponed to Sun., Mar. 24. 10:00 a.m. in the Social Hall.

Parent Information Night: Self-Help Skills and Kindergarten Readiness

Get expert advice from our Pre-K teachers about how to help your little one work towards being more independent and school ready. Bring your questions and struggles. Wed., Mar. 27, 6:00 p.m., Rm. 206.

Collection Connection

We need 2,000 filled plastic Easter eggs for the Easter egg hunt on Apr. 7. Pick up eggs in the parlor and return them filled with small stickers, toys, coins or nut-free pre-packaged candy.

Spring Fling Easter Egg Hunt

Save the date for our annual Easter egg hunt, Sun., Apr. 7. Starts at noon, lunch, egg hunt, petting zoo and other fun activities for children. Please invite your neighbors and friends.



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.

Club Kids for 3rd - 5th Graders

Join us Sunday evenings from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. for a time of games, community building, service and spiritual growth. Dinner provided and a \$3 donation is suggested.



Celebration Dinner and Auction



Thank you to everyone who participated in the Celebration Dinner and Auction on Fri., Mar. 8. Not only was it a fun, enjoyable evening of connecting with friends old and new, savoring dinner together and listening to live music, but over \$50,000 was raised to support the mission and ministry of the church. Many thanks to Amy Guthrey for chairing the event, and to Nancy Lear, Melanie Thompson, Rachel Wymore, Erin Feitz, Karen Gallagher, Jennifer Parker, Valerie Moeder, Lindsay Howes, Marilyn Dreas, Susan Edwards, Beckie Rogers, and Stuart Hoffman.



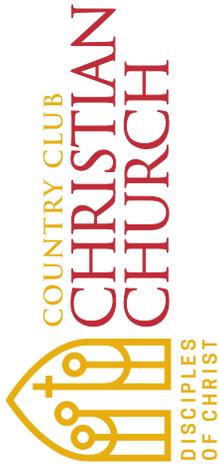
Omaha Zoo Trip



Seventeen Club Kids and seven adults traveled by van to Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo for a campout in the Scott Aquarium. Some highlights included a night hike and sleeping beneath the shark tunnel.



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Program Staff

Rev. Carla Aday
Senior Minister

Anne Haraughty
Ministries Coordinator

Dr. Mike Graves
Scholar in Residence

Barbara George
Director of Membership
Development

Rev. Tyler Heston
Minister to Youth

Sara and Alex Goering
Associate Directors of Music
for Children and Students

Rev. Corey Meyer
Director of Mission Partnerships

Lindsay Howes
Director of Children's Ministries

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

Lisa McCleish
Director of Early Childhood
Programs

Rev. Joe Walker
Minister of Congregational Care

Dr. Dina Pannabecker Evans
Executive Director of Operations
and Co-Director of Music

Jason Ashley
Director of Operations

Rachel Clement
Director of Finance

Lara Schopp
Director of Communications

Paul Cutelli
Director of Technology

Dr. Paul Tucker
Co-Director of Music

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ten days prior to publication. Editor: Lara Schopp, laras@cccckc.org

816-333-4917

email: office@cccckc.org website: www.cccckc.org

SAVE THE DATES



Children's Musical

Sun., Mar., 24, 10:00 a.m., Social Hall.

Grace at Work

Sat., Mar. 30, 8:00 a.m. - noon. Join us for a fun-filled half-day service event open to all ages and abilities.

Spring Fling

Sun., Apr. 7, noon- 2:00 p.m. Lunch, Activities and Egg Hunt on the Lawn

Palm Sunday Worship

April 14, join the Palm Parade at the 11:00 a.m. service, and we will celebrate the baptisms of our Pastors' Class participants.

Maundy Thursday

April 18, 7:00 p.m. - In remembrance of Jesus' last supper, we gather to sing hymns, read scripture and celebrate communion. Rev. Tyler Heston preaching.

Good Friday

April 19, 12:15 p.m. (prelude at noon)

Easter

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

Max Dewese Golf Tournament

Fri., Sept. 27, at noon.

For the full church calendar, visit our website at

CCCCKC.org

Follow us!

