



COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Oct. 11, 2019 | Vol. 93 No. 21

COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

From the Senior Minister Possible



Rev. Carla Aday

For the last eight months, the church leadership has been listening to its members through a series of events: Centennial

Conversations, First Impression Gatherings and a Feasibility Study. (See related article on results of that study on page 2.) But what I want to muse about is the theological or spiritual enterprise of “feasibility.” The Bible never says “With God, all things are feasible.” But it does say “With God all things are possible.” (Mark 10:27)

Ninety-nine years ago, some city missionaries came to Kansas City because they believed it was “feasible” to begin a new Disciples of Christ Church in the emerging “out south” neighborhoods. They met in a hotel (now Crestwood condominiums) and then as soon as the brand new shopping center called “Brookside” was open they met in the dance hall above the drug store to explore the possibility that God might be calling them to form a congregation. A year later they broke ground at 61st and Ward Parkway on the education building, eventually carving stone into five buildings that now cradle our faith community and support us with spiritual vitality.

But I firmly believe that what pro-

October Concert Series

Our October concert series continues. All are free, open to the public and followed by a reception.

Nancy Zschietzschmann Memorial Bach Concert – Oct. 13, 2:30 p.m. The church, along with the Kansas City Alumni Chapter of the Mu Phi Epsilon International Music Fraternity and Fritz Zschietzschmann, present the Nancy Zschietzschmann Memorial Concert featuring the music of Bach.

Nancy was a longtime church member and devoted member of Mu Phi Epsilon for 62 years. This concert will honor her, recognize emerging pianists, and encourage younger players. Student performers will be Mu Phi Epsilon members. Two professional musicians from the Kansas City Mu Phi organization will also perform. A reception will follow in the parlor. Refreshments will be provided by the Koinonia Sunday School Class, the class to which Fritz and Nancy belonged for many years.

Classical Music Sampler for Children (Adults Welcome Too!) – Oct. 20, 5:00 p.m. Get a closer look at some of the most well-known classical instruments. This fun and educational concert will feature an assortment of instrumentalists presenting classical solos, duets, and small ensemble pieces designed to appeal to children and adults.



Dress your little ghouls or goblins in his or her Halloween costume, or decorate your vehicle with a festive theme for our trunk-or-treaters. Starts with lunch at noon in the Social Hall, followed by trunk or treating in the Chapel lot at 12:30 p.m. If you'd like to participate by offering your trunk, contact April Booth at aprilb@cccckc.org.

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From the Senior Minister

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pelled them was more than feasibility. Rather it was that they were seized by God's possibility. They had felt God's claim upon their lives and they were compelled to share God's love, promise and hope with other people. They saw in the life and teachings of Jesus how life was meant to be lived well. What faithful convictions will seize us and how will God claim you and me for the future?

As I look forward to the next 10, 20, 50 and 100 years in American life, I feel certain that God will be needed. We may be challenged to by environmental emergencies, increasingly multi-faith and multicultural communities, massive technological and economic shifts and growing social isolation. And in the midst of this, the living God will move among us in ways we have not yet imagined, carving new outlines of grace upon the human community. I don't know exactly what is feasible. But I know that with God all things are possible. Because that love that gave birth to the movement of Christ 2,000 years ago will be needed at 61st and Ward Parkway for the next 100. 🕊

Grace and Peace,

Carla

Save the Date for Thanksgiving Dinner

Guest Speaker, Sly James: Building Cities for Our Children



Sly James, former mayor of Kansas City, will be the speaker at our annual Thanksgiving Dinner celebration on Thur., Nov. 21. We will gather at 6:30 p.m. in the Social Hall for a traditional dinner. Cost is \$20 per adult, \$12 per child. Purchase tickets in the parlor on Nov. 3, 10 and 17. Childcare is available with RSVP to April Booth at aprilb@cccckc.org by Nov. 14.

Feasibility Study Update

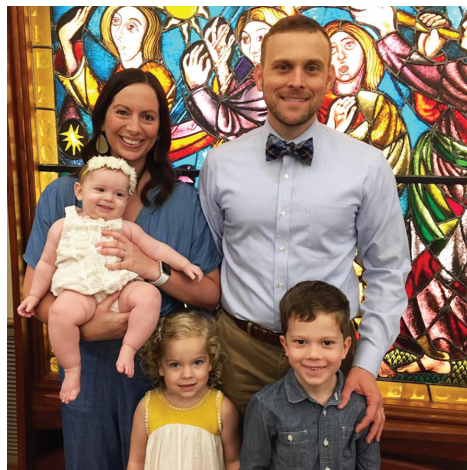
Horizons Stewardship recently completed a Feasibility Study to test the church's readiness to enter into a capital campaign to address several needs with its facility. Key findings include a widely-held belief that the projects under consideration are important for the church's future life and mission, that there is a deep trust and confidence in leadership (pastoral, staff and lay leaders), and that people feel that the church is moving forward. All are important findings which will have a positive impact on a campaign.

All of the proposed projects were rated high enough to be included in a capital campaign, with environmental concerns (air/heat, electrical, mechanical and plumbing) and safety matters receiving the greatest support. Two-thirds of those responding indicated a willingness to accept long-term debt (amount needed over what is raised) in order to complete a project as long as it is a prudent amount for which there is a plan to address.

The option of funds from a campaign being dedicated to a mission component received mixed responses. An equal percentage of people strongly supported such an endeavor as strongly disagreeing (with an equal amount not feeling inclined one way or the other).

Several factors were identified that need to be effectively addressed in order for the church to successfully conduct a campaign. Factors include concern about donor fatigue, the economy, and the impact on members' giving to other charitable organizations. In addition, a specific plan that is achievable and a clearer vision for the projects needs to be discerned. Finding effective ways to address these issues will have a positive impact on people's willingness to engage in a campaign and offer their gifts.

The results support a recommendation for Country Club Christian Church to move forward with a campaign, with the leadership creating a proposal for the projects to be addressed. 🕊



Lyla Ann, daughter of Rachel and Travis Wymore, was dedicated on Sept. 29. Pictured with brother Benjamin and sister Nora.



reflections

Rings of Time

By Rev. Tyler Heston, Minister to Youth



We should really start a book club for the church staff. Soon after Catherine shared an article that mentioned *The Overstory* by Richard Powers, six of us were reading (or had already read) the book. The novel weaves the story of various people from across the globe into a single story with the life of trees at the center. It is an amazing read with its incredible storytelling, poetic prose, and scientific savviness. Already, it is challenging me to re-think

how I ponder time and the progress of life.

At one point, Powers says that “people have no idea what time is. They think it’s a line, spinning out from three seconds behind them, then vanishing just as fast into the three seconds of fog just ahead. They can’t see that time is one spreading ring wrapped around another, outward and outward until the thinnest skin of Now depends for its being on the enormous mass of everything that has already died.” Throughout the novel, Powers’ storytelling serves as a reminder of this truth: time is slowly wrapping around itself, holding our lives within the enormous mass of the whole. After one of the more tragic moments in the story, one of the main characters looks up and into a large tree, realizing that, to this tree, each moment, joyful or tragic, is “so insignificant, so transitory, [and] will be written into its rings and prayed over by branches that wave their semaphores against the bluest of midwestern winter skies.”

Powers is not the first one to suggest that time is an accumulation of repetitive rings. The writer of Ecclesiastes wrestled with this same reality. “Vanity of vanities! All is vanity. What do people gain from all the toil at which they toil under the sun? A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever... What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done; there is nothing new under the sun.” (1:2-4, 9) With initial anxiety and trepidation, the writer of Ecclesiastes returns over and over to this incorrigible fact: that time is always wrapping around itself. We are small, and the same fate befalls us all. “For there is no enduring remembrance of the wise or of fools, seeing that in the days to come all will have been long forgotten.” (Ecclesiastes 2:16) Yet, the author hits a tipping point near the end and realizes that this repetition is not a bad thing, but must be accepted and rejoiced. The end of Ecclesiastes urges the reader to rejoice in the pleasures of life, from merry moments with friends to the treasured relationships with the ones you love, and to remember that life is worth living, even when it is but one ring in the endless trunk of time.

How do you mark the pace of your life? What reminds you of your humble place in the universe? What floods your life with meaning in the face of the enormity of it all? Whether you are celebrating your daughter’s sporting team’s victory or struggling with sickness keeping you home from work on an important day; whether you are celebrating the new life of a family member’s new baby or mourning the unexpected loss of a friend— wherever you find yourself amidst the highs and lows wrapped up into each of our lives— may you find peace and freedom within the rings of time. May we remember that we are held in place within the harmony of God’s eternity, and that despite the enormity of it all, the rings of our lives are irreplaceable parts of the trees of existence, each an important moment in the story God is telling in the infinite cosmos. 🍷



Join us for worship!

Sunday Service Times

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

October 13

Luke 18:1-8

Rev. Carla Aday Preaching

October 20

Rev. Carla Aday Preaching

October 27

Dr. Mike Graves Preaching

Sale in The Well

Autumn and holiday items available in The Well Gift Shop. All proceeds from The Well support Week of Compassion.



Adult Classes and Group Fellowship Opportunities

Monday Night Classes

7:00-8:00 p.m., Social Hall

Stubborn Is Not a Plan

Oct. 21. Led by Helen Emmott, nurse, aging specialist and author of *Without Regrets: Advice from a Nurse About Aging and Dying*. Learn family strategies to develop caregiving, health, financial, and residence plans in anticipation of aging and serious illness.

How Are We Made Right with God? Models of Atonement.

Oct. 28, Nov. 4 and 11. Led by Dr. Mike Graves. The word “atonement” can be broken down to read, “at one,” the idea being how Christianity has understood humans being “at one” with God. The most prevalent interpretation is that Jesus paid the penalty for our sins. But that approach implies atonement takes place by violence. Together, we will explore several options to this age-old dilemma.

Pathways to Learning

A series of elective offerings focusing upon timely topics on the Bible, spirituality, current events and more. Visitors and guests welcome. Sundays, 10:00-11:00 a.m., Social Hall

The Daring Way™

Nov. 10. Based on the work of Shame Researcher, Brenè Brown Ph.D., and led by Jennifer Worth, LCSW, and Rose Wigodner, LCSW, Certified Daring Way Facilitators. Learn about Shame, a core emotion, and how to combat Shame’s power to damage relationships: with those closest to us, others in our greater community and equally importantly – in our relationships with ourselves.

Faithbook

Women exploring spiritual matters and forming friendships. Includes group and small group discussion. Come and go as your schedule permits. Childcare is available by request to aprilb@cccckc.org.

Tuesdays, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. through Dec. 10, Rm. 206.

Wednesdays, 9:00-10:30a.m. through Dec. 11, Rm. 206.

faith
book

Faith and Grief Lunch Ministry

Tues., Nov. 5, noon-1:00 p.m. A safe place for those who grieve to remember, pray and share a meal. Free will offering. [facebook.com/FaithandGriefKC](https://www.facebook.com/FaithandGriefKC). Hosted at Village Presbyterian Church, 6641 Mission Road.

Faithbistro

FaithBistro. For women of all ages, with guest speakers on spirituality and real-life issues. Connect with other women looking for conversations that matter. Meet at Blue Moose, 4160 W 71st St, Prairie Village, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Oct. 24: Wendie Brockhaus, Assistant Curator at The Open Table

Nov. 14: Pam Bauer, United Methodist Clergywoman



Faithpub

Led by Mike Graves with guest speakers. For men of all ages. Connect with other men looking for sacred conversations around stuff that matters. Speaker begins at 7:00 p.m., come early for dinner. Bier Station, 120 E. Gregory Blvd.

Nov. 7: Andy Johnson, Professor at Nazarene Theological Seminary will talk about his new book on racial justice.



Roots

This new ministry is for individuals ages mid-20s to mid-30s, in the “in-between” stages of finding your way through the early and important adulthood years. Weekly gatherings at 10:00 a.m. Rm. 207. Contact Corey Meyer for details at coreym@cccckc.org. Metro Missions

Mission Partnerships

Micah Ministry

Serve dinner at Micah Ministry from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., on Mon., Oct. 14. Meet in the chapel lot at 4:30 p.m. to carpool. Return to church at 7:30 p.m. Questions? Contact Jackie Cunningham at 816-246-6202.

Partnership Day

The Metro Mission team has scheduled a partnership service day on Fri., Nov. 1, 1:00 p.m. at Sheffield Place.

Collection Connection

This month we are holding two separate collections. One is wrapped candy for “Scare-It” Renaissance Neighborhood Halloween event, in support of our partners in Northeast Kansas City. The second collection is for toilet paper and paper towels for Sheffield Place. Please leave donations in the basket in the Parlor.



a message from staff

Kansas City, A Home for All

By Corey Meyer, Director of Mission Partnerships



I was in my first 100 days at Country Club Christian when I first started hearing the words “affordable housing in Kansas City.” Invitations to public forums, Facebook posts, interviews on KCUR, and news articles were swirling around. At the same time as I was diving headfirst into how our

church could responsibly invest its previous capital campaign funds to create a positive impact in Kansas City. I was also re-learning what I knew about my own hometown and unequal housing practices that led to the landscape of our city as we know it today. The weeks went by. I put the issue of affordable housing aside. It sounded overwhelming and what could we really do?

We began a series of meetings about Northeast Kansas City to discuss its direst needs. Community leaders around the table started discussing the same thing – affordable housing. Organizing tenants to tell stories of horrible conditions and hope for a second chance at moving their families out of poverty and into a beautiful homes of their own. And this conversation was happening all over the country. So the question returned, in a new way, “what could we do to really partner with our neighbors?”

If you attended our recent Pathways to Learning series, you heard from community leaders: Lara McDonald with MORE2, Tara Raghuvver with KC Tenants, and Susan Walker with Catholic Charities/Neighborhoods of Hope. All three are working on equity, justice, and hope to create city that is hospitable and inclusive. Their work at the deep roots of poverty and injustice begs us to re-think what we know and how we respond as a faith community. One of the most important things we can do is to stay curious and informed. We can show up. Get to know the neighbors speaking out at KC Tenant gatherings and truly hear their stories. We can act. Join monthly MORE2 issue nights to weave talents, energy, and time with current issues. We can mentor. As Neighborhoods of Hope continues to build housing for vulnerable residents, we are in a privileged position to coach, teach, and talk about what it means to be a homeowner, to care for a space, for the first time.

When we are present with our neighbors we not only get a chance to share our unique gifts, we also get a new vision of the world around us. We join the work that God is already doing in Kansas City. Our church can embody the redeeming and inclusive love of Jesus Christ.

If you would like to be a part of the work that our community organizations are doing for affordable housing in Kansas City please contact Corey Meyer, our Director of Mission Partnerships, at coreym@cccckc.org. ☞

Our Church Family

In Sympathy

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

Carol Nichols
Paul Faucher

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.

Bob Marty
John and Martha Jane Stewart

Gwen Miller
John and Martha Jane Stewart, *for Children and Youth Ministry*

Jarene Stanford
Steve and Andrea Bough
Max Dewese, *for PMEF*
Alan and Susan Garner
Greg Garrison
Jill Reynolds, *for Congregational Care*
John and Martha Jane Stewart

Lillian Witt
Jeanne and Perry Cockayne, *for Congregational Care*
Robert Jones, *for Children's Ministry*
Ruth Rader, *for Children's Ministry*
John and Martha Jane Stewart, *for Children's Ministry*

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 Oct. 13 at 10:00 a.m. in the library. 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.

Youth Ministries

Dinners for High Schoolers - Nourish
Grades 9 - 12 are invited to join us at Panera Bread, 8300 Mission Rd., Wednesdays, Nov. 6, and Dec. 4 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. We'll break bread, catch up, and connect. Please bring money for dinner; scholarships available.



The second Tuesday of the month,, 7th and 8th graders get together for Connect, a special social time. On Sept. 10, we had a great time at Main Event.

7th and 8th Graders Connect

Youth in 7th and 8th grades are invited to special get togethers Tuesdays: Nov. 5, and Dec. 10. Some will be off-site; some will be at church.

Middle School Lock-in (Grades 6-8)

Join us for a Middle School Lock-in from 7:00 p.m. on Fri., Nov. 8, until 9:00 a.m. the following morning. We'll play games, eat snacks, watch a movie, and more. Cost is \$5. RSVP to April at aprilb@cccckc.org.

High School Lock-in (Grades 9-12)

Save the date for a High School Lock-in starting at 6:30 p.m. on Sat., Nov. 16. Details about activities and cost to come. RSVP to April at aprilb@cccckc.org.

Sunday Night Youth Groups

6th - 12th graders

Spend the final hours of your weekend relaxing, connecting, and playing games with friends on Sunday nights 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. (almost) every Sunday through Dec. 15. Each week includes a small supper, and activities for middle school and high school.

Children and Families

Parent Play Date

Families with young ones two and under are invited to come for a time of informal play. Bring your parenting questions as Lisa McCleish, Director of Weekday Programs will be joining us to share a bit about toddler development. With over 25 years of early childhood experience - no question will stump her! Sun, Oct. 20, 10:00 a.m., in the library.

Classical Music Sampler

Sun., Oct. 20, 5:00 p.m., Sanctuary. Get a closer look at some of the most well-known classical instruments. This fun and educational concert will feature an assortment of instrumentalists presenting classical solos, duets, and small ensemble pieces designed to appeal to children and adults.

Pathways to Learning: The Daring Way™

Sun. Nov. 10, 10:00 a.m. Based on the work of Shame Researcher, Brene Brown Ph.D., and led by Jennifer Worth, LCSW, and Rose Wigodner, LCSW, Certified Daring Way Facilitators. Learn about Shame, a core emotion, and how to combat Shame's power to damage relationships: with those closest to us, other in our greater community and equally importantly - in our relationships with ourselves.

Club Kids for 3rd - 5th Graders

Join us Sunday evenings from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. in the Social Hall for a time of community building, service and spiritual growth. Dinner provided weekly.



Club Kids went to Tall Oaks last Sunday afternoon. We did some teambuilding activities and archery. A good time was had by all!



Grace at Work

The peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwiches Team was just one of our Grace at Work projects last Saturday. This team made sack lunches for our partners at Cross-Lines Community Outreach in Kansas City, KS. Our neighbors who otherwise would go hungry will be able to have a nutritious meal. Lunch bags include a sandwich, fruit cup, healthy energy bar, water, and a napkin and spoon. During our Grace at Work Saturdays our members and friends visit our partner ministries around town and help them with projects and programming.

A little rain could not deter our faithful volunteers serving at Grace United Community Ministries located in the Historic Northeast Neighborhood. They helped with a seasonal garden makeover. Weeding, mulching, tending the raised beds and the orchard — all important tasks for the garden and orchard to continue producing healthy food for our neighbors who may not have access to fresh vegetables and fruit.



Max Deweese Golf Tournament



The annual Max Deweese Golf Tournament, named after one of Country Club Christian Church's favorite veterans was on Sept. 27. Proceeds from this tournament support veterans' causes, including the Veterans Community Project. This year we were honored to welcome special guest, VCP's own Jason Kander to play in the tournament.



6101 Ward Parkway
Kansas City, MO 64113

Return Service Requested

Program Staff

Rev. Carla Aday
Senior Minister

Dr. Mike Graves
Scholar in Residence

Rev. Tyler Heston
Minister to Youth

Rev. Corey Meyer
Director of Mission Partnerships

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

Rev. Joe Walker
Minister of Congregational Care

Jason Ashley
Director of Operations

April Booth
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Rachel Clement
Director of Finance

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Director of Technology

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Ministries Coordinator

Barbara George
Director of Membership Development

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

Sara Goering
Co-Director of Music

Lisa McCleish
Director of Early Childhood Programs

Lara Schopp
Director of Communications

Dr. Paul Tucker
Co-Director of Music

Chris Wendelbo
Executive Director of Operations

The Country Club Christian: Copy must reach this office by Monday 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



Guest Gathering

Sun., Oct. 13, Library

Trunk or Treat

Sun., Oct. 27, 12:30 p.m.

Dress your little ghou or goblin in his or her Halloween costume to trick or treat between decorated cars.

Individuals or groups interested in decorating a car should contact April Booth for more information at aprilb@cccckc.org.

Thanksgiving Dinner

Thurs., Nov. 21, 6:30 p.m.

Traditional Thanksgiving dinner in the Social Hall featuring guest speaker, Sly James, Jr., former mayor of Kansas City.

Advent in Advance

Sun., Nov. 24, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Social Hall

Advent workshop for children birth through 5th grade. Includes light lunch and make-n-take session to prepare your family and home for the Advent season. Cost is \$5/person, \$20/family.

Community Camp 2020

Aug. 1-8, 2020

Register at www.cccckc.org/community-camp-2020

For the full church calendar, visit our website at

CCCCKC.org

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