



COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Nov. 8, 2019 | Vol. 93 No. 23

COUNTRY CLUB CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

From the Senior Minister

In the Presence of the Holy



Rev. Carla Aday

wonder if Mary and Joseph told anyone that their 12 year old, Jesus, had disappeared for three days while the family was attending a festival. Or if the

father of the prodigal son shared with his rotary club friends that his son was out squandering his inheritance at the casinos in Vegas. I remember when my son made a terrible choice one night in high school. I both lived in fear of someone finding out about it. And I desperately wanted to talk to someone about it. But shame and fear kept me silent about the true nature of my angst.

Why is it that we so freely share with a stranger on the playground that potty training is not going well for our toddler? But once our beloved children face the trials and tribulations of adolescence and young adulthood we so often suffer in silence? I have a bright and talented niece who spent one of her first weeks of college in a mental hospital learning about an undiagnosed sensory limitation. It was terrifying and no one knew quite what to say or do. And I remember my nephew wanting to drop out of college not because he didn't have friends or make good grades but because he was

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, 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 10 and 17. Child care is available with RSVP to April Booth at aprilb@cccckc.org by Nov. 14.

We will also be supporting partner agencies at this event. The following items are needed for Della Lamb Community Service's Operation Thanksgiving, Grace United Community Ministries, and Cross-Lines Community Outreach: instant mashed potatoes, turkey gravy mix, stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, chocolate cake mix, chocolate frosting, apple pie filling, stainless steel forks and spoons. Please bring one or more of these items to the Thanksgiving Dinner, or drop them in the Parlor before Nov. 17.

Caring for Creation through Composting

Through a partnership with Compost Collective KC, the church has begun new efforts to care for the environment by composting food waste at various events. Initiated by the Preschool and Parents' Day Out programs, and now extending to church-wide events like Trunk or Treat and Thanksgiving Dinner, the church is working to keep food waste out of landfills. Did you know...

- 25% of the 167 million tons of garbage that end up in landfills each year is food waste
- Because food waste in a landfill decomposes without oxygen, it creates primarily methane gas as a byproduct
- Food waste that decomposes as compost has access to oxygen because it is regularly turned and aerated. As a result, it releases carbon dioxide

Methane gas absorbs heat from the sun (effectively warming our planet) at 21-70 times the rate of carbon dioxide

At Trunk or Treat, more than 35 pounds of waste was composted. Visit Compost Collective KC's web site at compostcollectivekc.com for more information on composting and how you can get started at home.

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From the Senior Minister

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simply lost and afraid and unsure why he was at school anyway. So often we think that we are the only parent or the only family member in this dark and lonely place. While in truth many of our closest friends are experiencing similar situations.

A faith community, when it works best, offers us a place we can name what is true about our lives. It may be in the silence of the sanctuary or in a small group with trusted confidants. In the church we are not called to be right or perfect all the time. Here we are free to honestly name our truth in the presence of the holy.

When my mother was 80, we visited her college roommate, Myra, who she had not seen in over 25 years. As we sat down my mother told Myra, "I still have the card you sent me when my first daughter was born 55 years ago. You composed a poem on the occasion of her birth." Then, to my shock, my Mom recited the poem from memory. Then Mom turned to Myra and said, "I always wondered how you knew exactly what I was feeling as a new Mom because you had no children at the time." Those mysterious, sacred words of understanding revealed a holy presence that lingers to this day. 🙏

Grace and peace,

Carla

Giving to the Church from an IRA

Recent changes in federal law have influenced how personal with Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA) can make contributions directly to charitable organizations. However, a provision referred to as an "IRA charitable rollover" allows transfers to qualified charities under certain conditions. If these conditions are met, for many taxpayers, this can reduce both federal and state income taxes, and may even lower the cost of income-based Medicare premiums.

Such transfers can benefit Country Club Christian Church because it is a public charity and a qualified 501(c)(3) organization. Transfers from IRAs to charity cannot count as a charitable contribution deduction, but gifts can count towards a donor's pledge. (The church will not include the amount as a tax-deductible contribution on your contribution record.)

Please consult your tax advisor to see if you qualify. To initiate a transfer, contact your IRA custodian who can provide you the necessary paperwork. Starting the process well ahead of the December charitable giving rush will ensure your contribution is made prior to the December 31 deadline.

Contact Rachel at rachelc@cccckc.org if you anticipate making such a transfer so that the amount is recorded appropriately toward your giving history or pledge, or if you would like additional information about qualifications.

This information was provided by the Christian Church Foundation. The Foundation and its affiliates do not provide tax, legal or accounting advice. This material has been prepared for informational purposes only, and is not intended to provide, and should not be relied on for, tax, legal or accounting advice. You should consult your own tax, legal and accounting advisors before engaging in any transaction.

Christmas Festival



This festive family event is Sat., Dec. 14, 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. and includes Christmas music, a visit with Santa, family photos, crafts, and holiday refreshments. We will also fill Christmas stockings for our friends at Micah Ministry, which serves homeless and needy individuals.

Poinsettia Sales

Support Country Club Christian Church's Youth Ministry Mission Trips by purchasing a Christmas poinsettia in the parlor on Sundays through Dec. 1. Payment must be received with order. Plants will be available for pick up from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. on Sun., Dec. 8, at the church. \$15 for a 6-inch plant, \$20 for an 8-inch plant, and \$25 for a 10-inch plant.



Pianist and 6th grader, Olivia Smith played the pre-service music for the 11:00 a.m. service on Oct. 27.



What's a Podcast?

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



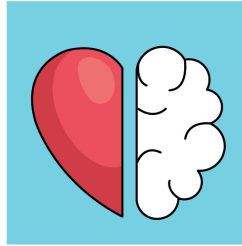
It's not uncommon in her sermons to hear Carla reference a book she's been reading or a podcast she's listened to recently, maybe an episode of "The Moth." It only recently occurred to me that not only are there people who've never heard of that program, but we may have

some in our congregation who don't even know what a podcast is, which is something I've always paid attention to in preaching, that preachers and listeners don't necessarily speak the same language. If you don't know what a podcast is, don't worry. It wasn't that many years ago that I didn't have a clue myself. I myself don't listen to them, although I have listened to one or two before. And now I'm hosting one, if that's the right language.

Here's the back story. When I was brainstorming with Carla how we might get more people out on a Monday night for the adult ed classes I teach, starting a podcast was one of her ideas. I'm pretty sure I said something like, "Any other ideas? Not interested." Or I pretended it was a good idea, confident she would leave me alone. And now I'm a believer. Truly. So, let me back up and explain what a podcast is for anyone unfamiliar, because that's the teacher in me. Then I'll say a word about mine in hopes you'll listen and tell your friends about it. It's called "Heart and Mind."

If you Google "podcast" like I just did, here's one description: "a digital audio file made available on the Internet for downloading to a computer or mobile device, typically available as a series." I'm pretty sure if I didn't know what one is now, this would make no sense to me. Let me tell you what mine is instead. On Monday nights I teach classes, like the one I did on "Reading Romans Again for the First Time" or the one my good friend David May taught, "New Doors into the Book of Revelation." Class sessions are from 7-8 pm most Monday evenings during the school year and about 50 folks on average attend. But sometimes they have to miss a session and some people can never attend because of their busy schedules or whatever. Being there is always better than a podcast, to be sure, but we're dealing with reality here. So, my podcast is a broadcast I record summarizing the highlights of a Monday night, but in about 25 minutes (enough time to listen on a treadmill, which is apparently really popular with podcast folks). For the one on Revelation, I interviewed David, which is more interesting than my solo attempts. But I have ideas to make mine better. Really.

And the way you get this podcast (which is another thing I'm not even going to attempt to answer because there are all sorts of platforms for getting them, if that's the right term) is to go to Apple Podcasts where our sermons are available or SoundCloud, and I'm getting in over my head already. Tell you what, here's the link: <https://www.cccckc.org/about-us/sermons/> I hope you'll listen and maybe tell others about it. I'm getting ready to post two more, on "Making Sense of the Cross." Stay tuned. (I assume that term applies in the podcasting world.)



HEART
AND
MIND



Join us for worship!

Sunday Service Times

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

November 10

Is God Still Speaking? Part 2:
Resurrection Language
Rev. Carla Aday Preaching

November 17

Is God Still Speaking? Part 3
Dr. Mike Graves Preaching

November 24

Is God Still Speaking? Part 4

Elder/Deacon Meeting

If you are an elder or a deacon please mark your calendar for Nov. 12 at 6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall.

Celebration of Membership

Sun., Nov. 17 we will welcome new members during the 11:00 a.m. service and give thanks for all of you who are part of our community. Reception at noon. If you are interested in joining the church that day, contact Barbara George at barbarag@cccckc.org.

Guest Gathering on Dec. 15

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 Dec. 15 at 10:00 a.m. in the Library. RSVP to Barbara George, 816-381-9251.

Adult Classes and Group Fellowship Opportunities

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.

Faithbistro

On Thurs., Nov. 14, 5:30-8:00 p.m. women of all ages, are invited to an evening with guest speaker Pam Bauer, United Methodist Clergywoman. She will speak 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.

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.



Country Club Singers Annual Christmas Concert

A presentation of Christmas favorites, featuring the Jubilee Ringers. Sun., Dec. 15, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

KC Brass Holiday Concert

In a long-held tradition, we welcome back the Kansas City Brass for a fun evening of sacred and secular favorites, interspersed with the good-natured humor of the Brass musicians. Tues., Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Mission Partnerships

Micah Ministry

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

Collection Connection

Each November, our Collection Connection focuses on providing pumpkin pies for Micah Ministry's annual Thanksgiving Dinner for individuals experiencing hunger and homelessness in the Northeast neighborhoods of Kansas City. This year we are requesting monetary donations to purchase large pies at Costco for this event. Each pie costs approximately \$6, and we have a goal of providing 100 pies. Please mark your donation “pumpkin pies.” If you'd prefer to bake your own pie, we also welcome those donations. Please bring your pie(s) to the church kitchen no later than Sun., Nov. 17. For more information contact Corey Meyer at coreym@cccckc.org.

Service Learning Trips

Ecuador Mission Trip Rescheduled

The fall 2019 Ecuador service/learning trip was rescheduled from October 2019 to January 17 – 24, 2020, and a few spaces remain open for this trip. For details contact Nancy Lear at nancylear@gmail.com or Corey Meyer at coreym@cccckc.org.

Nicaragua Feb. 23-29, 2020

Visit our partner CEPAD in Managua, Nicaragua to be present in the community and learn how to continue to improve the lives of children and families through hands-on projects and clinics. Participants must be over 18 years old. Deadline: Dec. 1 2019. Cost TBD (approx. \$1,400)

Puerto Rico May 28-June 1, 2020

Visiting our international partner ICDCPR – the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Puerto Rico to be present in the community and continue efforts to rebuild homes and lives following the disaster of Hurricane Irma in 2017. This year's trip will focus on “young adult” members for a long-weekend trip, however, all are welcome! Deadline: Feb. 1. Cost TBD (approx. \$1,000)



a message from staff

Church On Demand

By Paul Cutelli, Director of Technology



When I was a kid, one of the things I used to always look forward to was Saturday morning cartoons. Not only was it a sign that the weekend was going to be a relaxing one—we often did things on Saturdays which caused my brothers and me to miss our favorite shows—but there was an anticipation about what was going to happen in the story being told. Last week, our heroes got into a corner; how are they supposed to get away from the villain’s evil schemes? (Please, no re-runs!) Tune in next time on...

Who doesn’t want to know what happens next right now? I think that this is the logic that has driven people to getting an answer and quickly, never mind waiting until next week! Netflix, Amazon Prime, Hulu and similar companies exist because we, as a culture, cannot wait to experience our favorite television (or web-exclusive) narratives. Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, and other forms of social media make real-time reporting consumable, leading to immediate reactions from waiting audiences.

This “on-demand” culture might have the appearance of being something negative, but there is a niche for faith and religion in this scene that we are starting to explore more fully here at Country Club Christian Church.

There is perhaps nothing more episodic than the tradition of church services so it would stand to reason that having church “on demand” technologically would be very doable. If you would go to our website, you would be able to find weekly sermons and new bible studies, thoughtful blog posts and live-stream archives. All ready to play—and mobile friendly, too! I have had the good fortune of talking about our live-streaming and podcasts with many members and visitors in the last few years. Each of those different conversations had one reoccurring theme come up and without any prompting: this is the next best thing to being at church.

The next time you find yourself needing a bit of church and you cannot wait for the weekend, remember that you don’t have to stay in suspense. Tune in, watch it live, listen to it later... I promise you will only have a rerun if you choose play it again. 🍷

Our Church Family

In Sympathy

Our prayers and condolences are with the family and friends of **Zola LeSage Tolman**

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.

Paul Faucher

Bill and Jan Daniels
 Chuck and Marilyn Dreas
 John and Martha Houts
 Cindy and Randy Irey
 Henry and Linda Lee
 Miles and Kayla McDonald
 Carolyn Sellers
 John and Martha Stewart
 Kent Yocum
 Tyr Energy, Inc.
 JPMC-Digital Mobile Growth Team
Stuart McConaughy
 Linda Kekina

Carol Nichols

Anniversary Class
 Jeanne and Perry Cockayne, *for Congregational Care*
 Alan and Susan Garner
 Barbara and Alex George
 Brucie and Bill Hopkins
 Susan Icenogle Lytton
 Cindy and Randy Irey, *for Outreach Ministry*
 Linda Kekina
 John and Martha Stewart, *for Outreach Ministry*
 Mary and Pete Thorsell
 Richard and Suzanne Tye, *for general budget*

Jarene Stanford

Chuck and Marilyn Dreas
 Barbara and Alex George, *for Music Ministry*
 Brucie and Bill Hopkins
 Susan Icenogle Lytton
 Cindy and Randy Irey
 Terry Snyder
 Mary and Pete Thorsell
 Richard and Suzanne Tye, *for general budget*

Lillian Witt, for Children’s Ministry

Denney and Linda Rives
 Janet Roberts

Youth Ministries

7th and 8th Graders Connect

Youth in 7th and 8th grades are invited to special get together on Tues., Nov. 12, Join us for a movie night at the AMC Ward Parkway 14. We'll meet around 6:30 p.m. Details and movie decision TBA. RSVP to Tyler at tylerh@cccckc.org.

Dinners for High Schoolers - Nourish

Grades 9-12 are invited to join us at Panera Bread, 8300 Mission Rd., Wed. 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.

High School Lock-in (Grades 9-12)

6:30 p.m. on Fri., Nov. 16, for pizza and bowling at Pinstripes in Prariefire before watching a movie and sleeping at the church. Cost is \$30 for dinner and bowling; scholarships available. RSVP to April at aprilb@cccckc.org.

Youth Christmas Party

Join us for the 2019 youth Christmas party on Sun., Dec. 15, 4:15 to 7:30 p.m. (Note the change from Dec. 22 as originally planned). Meet at church to carpooling to Crown Center for dinner, ice skating, and hot chocolate. Please bring \$5 for skating and money for dinner in the Crown Center food court. RSVP to aprilb@cccckc.org.

Sunday Night Youth Groups

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.



The Bennett family lit candles and read scripture at the 11:00 a.m. service, on Oct. 27.

Children and Families



Save the date for this workshop for children birth through 5th grade, on Sun., Nov. 24, 11:00 a.m. Cost is \$5/person, \$20/family. Includes light lunch and make-n-take session to prepare your family and home for the Advent season.

Footsteps of Faith — 1st-5th Graders

November Workshop Series: Ruth

First graders create mosaic paper hearts after learning how in Ruth's story, hearts are united in love, ripped apart by separation, broken by grief, renewed with



hope and expanded by the birth of a child. The paper hearts serve as a reminder of Ruth.

Parents' Night Out

Friday, November 22
6:00 - 8:30 pm

Children 3rd grade and under are invited to come for a Parents' Night Out. Infants and toddlers will be supervised by child-care staff. Preschool and up will be with youth and adult leaders. Cost is \$10 per child, \$30 max per family. RSVP to Aprilb@cccckc.org





TRUNK OR TREAT



A Spider Man, three Madelines, a princess and a butterfly joined us in worship on Oct. 27, followed by Trunk or Treat, featuring a beautiful afternoon of games and collecting treats. Thank you to all who provided trunks full of candy for our children, and for all those who contributed to this fun and festive event.



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Associate Directors of Music
for Children and Students

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

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Rev. Joe Walker
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Jason Ashley
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Lara Schopp
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April Booth
Director of Children's Ministries

Dr. Paul Tucker
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Rachel Clement
Director of Finance

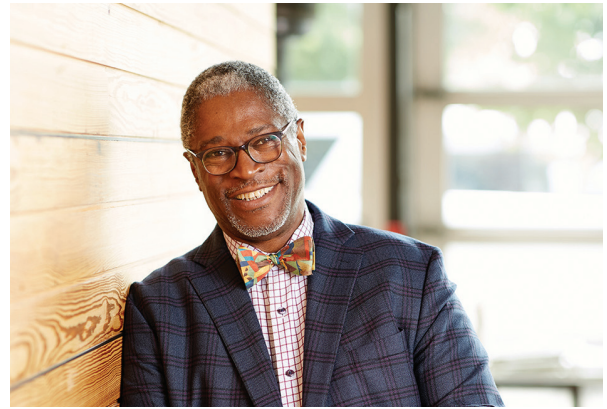
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SAVE THE DATES



Thanksgiving Dinner

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

Traditional Thanksgiving dinner featuring guest speaker, Sly James, 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.

Christmas Festival

Sat., Dec. 14, 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

This festive family event includes Christmas music, a visit with Santa, family photos, crafts, a service project, and holiday refreshments.

Christmas Eve

5:30 p.m. – Children and families service.

8:00 p.m. – Traditional service with the KC Brass.

11:00 p.m. – The Kansas City Brass, communion and carols lead us to the lighting of the Christmas candles at midnight.

Post-Christmas Schedule

The church offices will be closed on Wed., Dec. 25 and Thurs., Dec. 26. On Sun., Dec. 29, one service only at 10:30 a.m. No Sunday School; child care will be available.

For the full church calendar, visit our website at

CCCCKC.org

Follow us!

