

FALL / WINTER 2023 PROGRAMMING GUIDE



UPCOMING EVENTS

**“Considering Matthew Shepard”
performed by Spire Chamber
Ensemble**

Friday, October 6, 7:30pm and
Saturday, October 7, 7:30pm

**Combined Worship Service with
Swope Parkway UCC**

ONE SERVICE ONLY

Sunday, November 12, 11am

Advent in Advance

Sunday, November 19, 11am - 12:30pm

Christmas Festival

Saturday, December 9, 2:30 - 4:30pm



Sign up for
groups and
events, and
connect with
community here!



WORSHIP



Rev. Carla Aday
Senior Minister

Worship with us in person or online at 9:01, 10am or 11am, or on demand anytime.

Sacred Space | Sept. 10, 17, 24, Oct. 1

We say God is everywhere but sometimes God feels mysteriously absent. As we return to our Sanctuary after its renovation, we will reflect on ways to cultivate sacred space in our lives. In the midst of our stress filled days, complicated relationships and technologically fast paced world, God shelters us. Solitude, friendship and sanctuaries become windows to the divine reality. And we become holy sanctuaries for one another.

Wholehearted Faith in a Divided World Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29

We wake daily to a division: a nation divided by culture wars; a globe divided by real wars; a society divided by haves and have nots; neighborhoods by different religious expressions or none at all. We walk into life divided: sacred and secular; private and public. Even our hearts are divided: love of family and pressure to perform well on the job. In the midst of this divisiveness, God calls us to love with our whole hearts. How can our love of God encompass the steps we tread on this earth?

Help, Thanks, Wow! | Nov. 5, 12*, 19, 26

A series on the book of Psalms. We often turn to God to say “Help me” but sometimes we turn to God to say “Thank you”. Other days we stand in awe of some beauty and mystery and simply say “Wow” for the amazing gift of life. The book of Psalms articulates all of these honest prayers and shows us a pattern for connecting with God’s Spirit in a world that often appears broken. We will explore this ancient prayer book/song book as our own tutorial in talking to God.

*** 11am | Combined Worship Service with
Swope Parkway United Christian Church**

Waiting for God | Dec. 3, 10, 17

Long ago God came into the world in human flesh. Today we wonder if Jesus will still come among us. As the lights go up and the festivities begin our hearts turn again to the hope that God can transform our world and our lives. But as we wait for God, what shall we do?

MUSIC

Chancel Choir Wednesdays, 7 - 8:30pm | Room 100

Our largest adult ensemble, the Chancel Choir, sings each Sunday during the 11am service and performs at special events. No audition is necessary.



Dr. Matthew Thompson
Director of Music and Media



Jubilee Ringers (Bell Choir) Wednesdays, 6 - 7pm | Room 304

This group of adults plays handbells monthly in worship. Prior musical experience is not required, but is helpful. Director, Joyce Blakesley.

SERVE

Grace At Work: Partnership Days

Opportunities to join other members and friends for a time of service and fun. By participating in these community-focused events, held most months, you will be helping create visible change in our local community.

Collection Connection

Donate requested “item(s) of the month” or make a financial gift to the Collection Connection. Read the weekly newsletter for information about the items being collected throughout the year. Past examples include toothbrushes for Nicaragua, personal hygiene items for Christmas stockings, and yarn for the knitting ministry.



Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn
Minister of Outreach & Mission



Week of Compassion

Week of Compassion is the relief, refugee and developmental mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and serves vulnerable communities throughout the world. Supporting this organization allows their resources and responses to reach farther, growing their impact on a global scale.

The partner agencies we serve, focus on education, eliminating hunger and moving people from poverty to self-sufficiency.

Cross-Lines Community Outreach
Feeding hungry neighbors.

Della Lamb Community Services
Various Serving the refugee community.

Grace United Community Ministries
After school tutoring and feeding hungry neighbors.

The Harmony Project
Supporting music education for children and other services for their families

Hartman Elementary School
Tutoring, after school programming and Harvester's Back snacks.

Jerusalem Farm
Community gardens, home repair assistance, and community leadership development.

Micah Ministry
Feeding hungry neighbors.

Sheffield Place
Projects assisting mothers experiencing homelessness and addiction.

Virginia Reed Food Drive
Monthly food assistance to local agencies.

In addition to those listed, we also serve **River of Refuge; Amethyst Place; The Grooming Project; reStart and Scraps KC**, all located in the Kansas City metro area.



Join groups, sign up for activities and more with the QR Code on the last page, or contact the main office at 816.333.4917 / office@cccckc.org

FAITH FORMATION

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES

Roots provides opportunities for adults in their 20s and 30s to connect as a community, to learn and grow spiritually, and to make a difference through service-learning projects. New friends are always welcome.



PANEL DISCUSSION

AWARENESS, ADVOCACY, ACTION: GENDER IDENTITY, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, AND SEEKING JUSTICE | Sunday, Oct. 15, 7pm

How do we support folks in the LGBTQ community? What is going on in the culture that we may not understand? How do we talk to others who may not feel the same as we do? What action steps can we take to support our brothers and sisters on the margins? Join us for an evening panel discussion with local allies in the Kansas City community for this critical discussion.



Rev. Bryce Bowers
Executive Minister

SMALL GROUPS

Neighborhood Communion Groups

In the spirit of being together, our Neighborhood Communion Groups meet at one another's houses for fellowship, discussion, and fun! Each group sets its own schedule dependent on the groups needs. We have several groups meeting now, and we will be launching three new groups in October!

Wednesday Morning Bible Explorers | 10:30am

Led by Dr. George Gordon. Study the Gospel According to John. Recommended Materials: A Bible and William Barclay's The Daily Bible Study Series, The Gospel of John, Vol. 1.

Faithbook | Tuesdays, 7 - 8pm (Zoom)

Women exploring scripture and forming friendships.

Faithbook in the Morning: Women's Voices Now | Wednesdays, 9:30 - 11am

An open circle of women seeking spiritual growth through expanded understanding of the diverse world in which we live. All women are welcome!

Virtual Yoga | Mondays & Friday, 10:30am

Certified yoga instructor teaches to all levels of expertise via Zoom

Green Team | Mondays at 9am and 5:30pm

If you have a green thumb or enjoy gardening, share time with like-minded people while caring for the church grounds to make them beautiful and welcoming to all.



Commemorating
25 Years

considering

Matthew Shepard

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
OCTOBER 6 & 7 - 7:30 PM

PERFORMED BY
Spire Chamber Ensemble



GET TICKETS NOW

Country Club Christian Church
6101 Ward Parkway
Kansas City, MO 64113

Save \$5 / ticket with coupon code CMS2023

Join groups, sign up for activities and more with the QR Code on the last page, or contact the main office at 816.333.4917 / office@cccckc.org

FAITH FORMATION



ADULT EDUCATION

MONDAY NIGHT CLASSES, 7 - 8:15pm Youth Center



These Faith & Culture classes are part of many offered throughout the metro area, in partnership with William Jewell College. To see all classes available and to pre-register, which is required, visit cccckc.org/wj-registration. Classes are free to our congregation, use code: CountryClub (note - no spaces).

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Connections 10:01 | Room 206

Explore sources of wisdom including scripture, theology, psychology, and science to guide us toward more inspired and healthy living. Designed for adults in their 30s and 40s. The class has a “no homework required” format.

Travelers | Third Floor

For folks in their 50s and 60s to talk through both contemporary issues and developing our faith. Meets on the third floor.

Anniversary | Library and Zoom

Our senior couples and singles gather for timely topics, Bible study, discussion, socials and outreach. Currently meeting simultaneously in-person in the Library and via Zoom.

Koinonia | Solarium and Zoom

Singles and couples (around retirement age and up) explore a variety of contemporary ethical issues and Christian faith.



Rev. Dr. Mike Graves
Scholar in Residence

What Is so Special About Earth? Sept. 25, Oct. 2, 9, 16

Led by Dr. Maggie Sherer, Professor of Physics, William Jewell College

Over the past two decades, thousands of planets outside our solar system have been discovered, many of which could have the right ingredients for life. With these discoveries, the question arises, “Is the Earth special?” We will look at some of these newly discovered planets, how we determine if they are habitable, and how they compare to our own Earth. We will discuss what makes our own planet habitable and the unique features that allow life to flourish, as well as our responsibility to this life-filled planet.

The Parables of Jesus and the Economy of God | Oct. 23, 30, Nov. 6, 13

Led by Rev. Dr. Mike Graves, Scholar in Residence, Country Club Christian Church

Someone once defined parables as “simple earthly stories with a heavenly meaning,” which turns out to be wrong on several counts. The parables are complicated riddles Jesus told that had everything to do with life in the first century Mediterranean world, and especially the economy. Under the Roman Empire, these riddles poked fun at the powers that be, while advocating that the poor be cared for, not just elites. In this interactive course, we’ll wrestle with several of Jesus’ best-known parables as well as the economic challenges they issue in our day.

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FAMILY MINISTRIES



**Christian Community
Camp | July 27 -
August 2, 2024**

2024 is the 50th Anniversary of attending Community Camp! It will be an awesome celebration. Join other families and individuals from the church in the Rocky Mountains. We call it "Christian Community Camp" because the week allows folks to build friendships with fellow church members of all ages while growing in faith in the midst of God's creation.



REGISTER ONLINE
or at bit.ly/3Rbb5zo

Babies and Breakfast 9:30 - 10:30am

**Saturday, Sept. 16, Oct. 28,
Nov. 18 in the Youth Center**

We gather for breakfast and playtime with children 4 and under and their families. This is a great opportunity to connect with parents who have children similar in age.

Infant Dedications

We welcome the opportunity to celebrate new babies in the congregation with an infant dedication as part of worship.

CHILDREN

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL, 9:55 - 10:55am

Worship & Wonder Preschool - Kindergarten

This Montessori-style class presents simply told Bible stories that encourage wondering and allow for the imaginations of children to connect the faith stories with their own life experiences.

Footsteps in Faith 1st - 5th grades

From our nature nook to sacred space to a make-n-take style art room the children will have choices in the ways they connect with God. Children explore Biblical stories and foundations that call for us to love God and love our neighbor, to care for each other and our earth.

Club Kids, 3rd - 5th graders Sundays, 4 - 5:30pm

An opportunity to connect and build friendships through service opportunities, fun outings, games, and faith-focused conversations.

YOUTH 6th - 12th grades

Donuts and Discussion Sundays at 10am in the Youth Center

Connect over conversation on a topic related to our faith and lives, then split into small groups based on age. Watch the e-news for the date of our first Sunday morning.

Youth Group Sundays, 4 - 5:30pm

Students are invited to come for fun while connecting with others through games, service projects, off-site outings and more. Watch the weekly e-news for details about the Sunday evening youth group.

Late Start Coffee Every other Thursday, beginning Sept. 14, 8am

High schoolers are invited to join us at Hattie's Fine Coffee (4195 Somerset) before Shawnee Mission East's late start.

Sign up for the Family Ministry E-News

For all the events, activities and service projects upcoming, be sure to sign up for the weekly children, youth and family e-news by emailing AprilB@cccckc.org



Join our private Facebook Groups geared towards children, ages 3 - 5th Grade. Request to join @CCCCKKids



Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn
Minister to Children & Families



April Booth
Director of Children's Ministry



CARE MINISTRIES

Daily Prayer Line

Hear a short meditation and leave your prayer requests, 816-333-4920.

Faith and Grief Lunch 12 - 1pm, Oct. 3 and Nov. 7 at Village Presbyterian Church

A brief presentation precedes a facilitated table conversation that provides a safe place to remember, listen, and pray together. Complimentary box lunch for those registered. Pre-register at 816.381.9249.

Prayer Ministry, First Thursday of each month, 10 - 11am, Room 303

Gather and pray for the needs expressed in our community.

Flower Ministry

Have you ever wondered what happens to the beautiful arrangements of flowers in the Chapel and Sanctuary after worship, or the displays that are often left following memorial services? A team of Flower Ministry volunteers rearranges large displays into many smaller bouquets in vases, then they are delivered to individuals and families who could use a smile or who are celebrating a milestone.



Knitting and Sewing Ministries

Create warm hats, warm scarves, and mittens for partner agencies, as well as baby blankets, baby hats, lap robes, shoulder wraps and more for cancer patients at University Health Hospital. Other projects are made as needed, especially for shut-in congregation members and women and children in developing countries.

Circles of Care Phone Ministry to Homebound

Help elderly and shut-in members stay connected with the congregation and engaged in our ministries. One hour a month commitment.

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and Al-Anon

Call 816-333-4917 for daily meeting times.



Rev. Joe Walker
Minister of Congregational Care

Looking for a meaningful way to remember or honor a loved one? Consider becoming a Memorial Flower or Broadcast Sponsor.

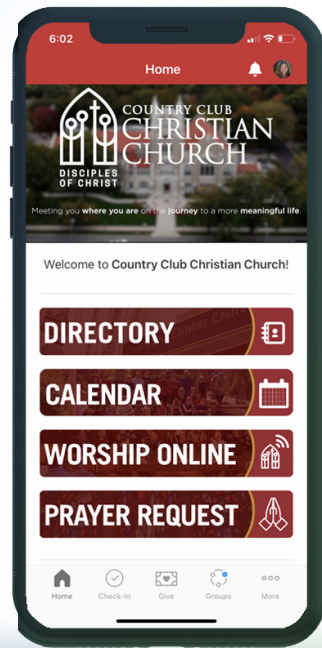
The flowers in the Chancel each Sunday are an important part of our overall worship experience. Following services, they are arranged into smaller vases by our flower ministry and delivered to our sick and homebound friends as a sign of our care and concern. Our on-line services continue to help us reach those who are unable to join us in-person because of health or geography.

Both are a beautiful way to remember and honor loved ones and support our church.

For more information, email office@cccckc.org or call 816.333.4917.

Fostering relationships and deepening spiritual growth are core values at Country Club Christian Church. Wherever you are in your faith journey we have a place for you to connect with others in our community. For next steps about joining a Small Group or to learn more about the events in this guide, scan the QR code and engage with the Church Center App.

Give, sign up for events, connect with a community, check your family in, and more!



Download the app today.



For more information about any of the opportunities in this guide, or how to take the next steps, email membership@cccckc.org.



Corey Scott
Director of Church Life

The Next 5 Strategic Priorities by the Congregational Board

- Develop re-imagined new member program.
- Invite church-unaffiliated and engage families and individuals.
- Create sustainable small groups to foster relationships.
- Strengthen inclusivity.
- Enhance ministry through communication and technology.

