



DISCIPLES
OF CHRIST

VOLUME 83 · NUMBER 3

COUNTRY CLUB

CHRISTIAN

Strength for the Journey. Grace for the Soul.

Lenten Sermon Series: Leave Fear Behind

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*We joyfully  
welcome  
and nurture  
all people  
by providing  
a vibrant  
Christ-centered  
community  
of faith,  
dedicated to  
spiritual growth  
through  
worship, study  
and service.*

The journey through Lent is marked by trepidation and anxiety. Jesus must have been filled with fear as he walked toward his death, but he did not allow that fear to define his actions.

Instead, he proclaimed forgiveness for his enemies, love for his family and hope for the criminal. During Lent, we invite you to leave fear behind and embrace the love of God and the life of service to others. When we leave fear behind we will discover the joy of finding grace and compassion on the road ahead.



**March 1** – When the Crisis Is Over  
Genesis 9: 8-17

**March 8** – Losing and Finding Your Life  
Mark 8: 31-38

**March 15** – Rules that Set Us Free  
Exodus 20:1-17

**March 22** – Bitten by Discouragement  
Numbers 21: 4-9

**March 29** – On the Other Side of Death  
John 12: 20-33

**April 5 Palm Sunday**  
Boulevard of Broken Dreams  
Mark 11: 1-11, 15: 1-47

**April 12 Easter Sunday**  
Leave Fear Behind  
Mark 16: 1-8

### Ash Wednesday

**Wed., Feb. 25, 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary**

The first service of Lent invites us into this season with a traditional imposition of ashes to symbolize the fragile nature of our lives.

### Worship and Study

**Wednesdays starting Feb. 25**

Join us each Wednesday during Lent for a warm and worshipful evening.

**5:30 p.m.** – Light buffet supper. \$7.50 adults; \$5 children 12 and under. Sign up in Parlor by Sunday prior or call 816-333-4917.

**6:00 p.m.** – Worship in the Social Hall for adults and youth. Children's worship in Pine Room (Rm. 10).

**6:30-8:00 p.m.** – Classes for adults (see below).

**ABC, A Basic Christianity** – Whether you are just beginning your faith journey or have been navigating your path for a while, we invite you to this series. Designed for the questioning Christian, the class focuses on basic topics related to faith and spirituality. Led by the church's clergy using the book *To Begin at the Beginning* by Martin Copenhaver, which is available for purchase in The Well or to borrow in the church library.

**Bible Workbench** – Explore the scripture passages that relate to the spiritual journey through Lent. The text and theme that we explore on Wednesday night will be the basis for the Sunday sermons throughout Lent. To receive a workbook, sign up by Sun., Feb. 22 at [marymargareth@cccckc.org](mailto:marymargareth@cccckc.org). Books cost \$25. Facilitator is Rev. Carla Aday.



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# The Greening of the Grounds

The Green Team has been researching lots of project that would benefit the church and congregation. The first major project being discussed is to make the church's grounds greener (in every sense of the word). Three major additions being considered for the grounds:



**1) A Rain Garden** – The green area in the parking lot near the chapel would become the home of a 16 foot by 20 foot rain garden as a part of Kansas City's 10,000 Rain Gardens initiative ([www.rainkc.com](http://www.rainkc.com)). A rain garden in that location will utilize the rain water that now spills into the parking lot, eliminating flooding and beautifying the area with native plants.

**2) A Peter Rabbit Garden** – In conjunction with the preschool program, a garden of vegetables featured in Beatrix Potter's *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* could be planted near the playground. Such a garden would not only beautify the space but will teach children about the source of their food. The vegetables grown would be donated to the hungry.

**3) Edible Landscaping** – Edible plants such as Swiss chard, gypsy peppers and sweet potatoes would be

incorporated into the annual flower beds south of the church. The food grown will be donated to feed the hungry.

The Green Team is very excited about implementing these changes but needs assistance. If you're interested, there are several ways you can help:

**Donate your time** – Is gardening your thing? Or have you always wanted to learn how to garden? A Gardening Group is being formed to help care for the grounds.

**Donate plants** – Many of the plants in the Rain Garden are plants commonly found in home gardens. We welcome plant donations or clippings for the gardens.

**Donate raw materials** – These gardens need mulch, river rock and tools to help get them started. Any such donations are welcome.

**Donate money** – These changes and additions to the grounds will cost about \$1,000 so direct monetary contributions are also welcome.

If you are able to help with any of these areas, please contact Mary McClure at 816-561-2213 or [Mary@MMcClure.net](mailto:Mary@MMcClure.net) or Jenny Doty at 913-789-9374, [jjlly@yahoo.com](mailto:jjlly@yahoo.com) for more information.

## Nomination Process Begins

This is an exciting time in our church's journey. We need energetic, dedicated, and motivated members of the congregation to lead, serve and inspire. The process of identifying and nominating members of our congregation for various leadership and service positions for the 2009-2010 church year has begun, and we need your help.

The Nominating Committee is soliciting names for the following positions:

Congregational Board:

- Chairperson-Elect
- Treasurer
- Board Members

Personnel Committee

Endowment Trustees

Elders

Deacons

Youth Elders

Youth Deacons

Nomination forms and qualifications are available in the parlor and on our website starting this week. Please submit your nominations by Sun., Mar. 15. You are welcome to nominate yourself.

If you have any questions regarding the nomination process, please contact Jane Fletcher at 816-333-4917 or [janef@cccckc.org](mailto:janef@cccckc.org). Thank you for your participation in this important process.

### Nominating Committee:

John Cockle, Chairperson

Andy Berry

Perry Cockayne

Stan Cyphers

Bonnie Blythe Dee

Craig Doty

Carol Hailey

Gwen Miller

Mareta Smith

Betsy Wilson

## Cedar Rapids Mission Trip Informational Meeting

A mission trip to the Cedar Rapids, IA, area is planned for June 11-13 in response to that area's massive flooding in 2008. Come to an informational meeting on Sun., Mar. 1 at noon in the Youth Center (Rm. 205) and find out how you can put your faith to work by spending a few days with a purpose. Join us on this trip to help with cleanup, rebuilding, or whatever else is needed. For more information, contact Jackie Cunningham at 816-246-6202 or [jackiekcunningham@gmail.com](mailto:jackiekcunningham@gmail.com).



## The Most Difficult Task

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



If you had to identify the most difficult task you face in your everyday world what would it be? Meeting the demands of a tough and difficult job? Learning to get along with a diverse and perhaps divisive set of co-workers? Finding just the right word for an essay or a public speaking event?

I don't have any hard research to support my answer to that question but a recent sermon has provided plenty of anecdotal evidence suggesting that the hardest thing any of us must do in

this life is forgive. Following that sermon a few weeks ago many, many people paused at the door in the back of the sanctuary or came by later in the week to say, more or less: "Learning how to forgive someone is the hardest thing I have ever done."

I'm pretty sure their honest commentary is right on target. Forgiveness gets even more difficult when the one we need to pardon is someone we care for deeply. George Everett Ross, in a sermon on forgiveness remarks, "When forgiveness occurs, a community is assembled. They assemble to celebrate. The neighbors are called in. Surely one of the most terrible consequences of sin is the loneliness of guilt. Forgiveness gives people back their friends and neighbors."

Learning to forgive gives us the opportunity to remember the great gift of God's mercy for all of us and it gives us the chance to remember, that is, reconnect with the human community. When we find ourselves in a forgiving community we discover that our lives are changed, our dreams are reenergized and our hopes are empowered.

Lewis Smedes cuts right to the chase when he writes, "With a little time, and a little more insight, we begin to see both ourselves and our enemies in humbler profiles. We are not really as innocent as we felt when we were first hurt. And we do not usually have a gigantic monster to forgive; we have a weak, needy, and somewhat stupid human being. When you see your enemy and yourself in the weakness and silliness of the humanity you share, you will make the miracle of forgiving a little easier."

Maybe that is why Jesus instructs us to love our enemies. When we find the courage and guts to do that, we may also find the ability to forgive the worst within ourselves.

Grace and Peace to you,

## February Collection Connection

In February we are collecting items for the 2009 South Africa mission trip team, which travels in March. Items will be collected both for Them bani Special Day Care Centre, a day care center for special needs children in Bedford Township where the team will be doing its main work project this year, and for the Samaritan Centre, an AIDS hospice. Cash donations are also welcome.

**For the day care center:** children's vitamins (expiration date not earlier than 2010), crayons, markers, glue, tape, face cloths, toothbrushes, toothpaste, lip balm (e.g., Chapstick).

**For the Samaritan Centre:** latex gloves, hand sanitizer, Neosporin, gauze (rolls and pads), bandaids and bandages (all sizes), tape for bandages.

## Worship with us!

**Services at 8:00, 9:00,  
10:00 and 11:00 a.m.**

**Jan.-Feb. Sermon Series**  
*Finding Our Way:*  
*Learning to Live Like Jesus*

**Feb. 15**  
Through Truth  
*James 1: 17-18*  
*John 8: 31-32*

**Feb. 22**  
Through Wisdom  
*Proverbs 3: 13-18*  
*Colossians 1: 9-14*

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# Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

## Pathways to Learning



### The Prophets

**Mar. 8, 15, 22, 29** – Dr. Harold Washington, professor at St. Paul School of Theology will lead this series.

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## Saturday Night Live

For couples with children 10 and under. Enjoy adult conversation and fellowship. Childcare by reservation at the church.

**Feb. 21** – Game Night at the Church. 6:00-8:00 p.m. Kids will enjoy games in the youth center and adults will gather in Social Hall. Bring a board game to share if you wish. Adult dinner for \$7.50 per person. Kids eat pizza free! Respond by Feb. 16 by calling 816-333-4917.

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## One-ders

A diverse group of singles ages 35-60-ish, where everyone is always welcome. Focusing on developing spirituality, service to others, and providing opportunities for growth through fellowship.

**Valentine's Day Celebration** – Sat., Feb. 14, 2:30-4:30 p.m. Help celebrate Valentine's Day at Overland Park Nursing and Rehab Center (6501 W. 75th St.). Louise Smith will be providing music, and the rest of us will help spread the holiday love. Bring a simple dessert (such as cookies, sugar-free treats). Contact Suzy Spencer at 913-262-0088 or Carol Crouch at 913-341-8848 for details.

**Thank You Brunch for Jon Voss** – Sun., Feb. 22, noon. Join us at Applebee's on 103rd Street just east of State Line Road, for a brunch honoring/thanking Jon for his time spent as a One-der. Contact Suzy Spencer at 913-262-0088 or Betsy Wilson at 913-220-1059 for details.

**Lenten Worship and Study** – In lieu of our regular Monday night Bible Study, One-ders will be participating in the Wednesday night Lenten series.

## Crossroads

For adults ages 35-50. We each face many different crossroads in our lives. Each Sunday provides an opportunity to build relationships, learn more about our faith tradition and discover the spiritual guidance needed to face the various crossroads. Meets every Sunday in the Pine Room (Rm. 10), 9:55-10:55 a.m.

**Jan. 11 -Mar. 1** – Genesis. Talk about Crossroads! The first book of the Bible explores family relationships, job transfers, the pressures of living in a secular culture, and much more. Take a look at the dramas of Noah, Rebekah and many others who struggle with how God interacts with us at each and every crossroad we face. Learn the meaning and the mystery of the stories as we share our own stories with one another.

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## YaWhose Young Adults [age 22-35] Welcoming Hearts Open to Spiritual Exploration

The group, which includes couples and singles, has a new schedule. Instead of meeting on the first Tuesday monthly we will host four quarterly special events and four quarterly Sunday lunches, in addition to meeting on Sunday mornings from 9:55 to 10:55 a.m.

**Feb. 11** – Meet at the church in Rm. 309 at 7:00 p.m. for an Italian dinner and service project. We will be making Valentines cards to be mailed to shut-ins from our church. Materials and dinner provided.

**Feb. 22** – Charles Rolen will lead. 9:55-10:55 a.m., Rm. 301.

**Mar. 1** – Joint meeting with Crossroads. Lesson on Genesis, Pine Room (Rm. 10).

**Mar. 8** – Reasons for Lent with Catherine Stark-Corn.

**Mar. 15** – Practical Witnessing with Travis Wymore.

**Mar. 22** – Women in the Church with Carla Aday.

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## Women's Spring Retreat

Mark your calendar for the Disciples Women spring retreat Mar. 13-14 at Tall Oaks Conference Center. The theme is "Whose Voice Is It? Listening to God." The keynote speaker will be Rev. Karen Yount, regional staff for Women's Ministry. Karen will lead the retreat in scriptures that challenge us to listen to God. Contact Janet Roberts for more information.



## Remaining Focused

by Dr. Charles Rolen, Interim Minister of Congregational Care



A few years ago the United Methodist Church rolled out an advertising campaign with the motto: “Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Doors.” As a Disciple, I’m jealous. That is a fabulous motto and as a Disciple, I would naturally add: “Open Table!”

I am beginning my fifth month at Country Club Christian Church as the Interim Minister of Congregational Care. The pace, volume, and energy of our congregational life is amazing. I have never experienced such an offering of opportunities for mission and ministry. It is apparent the Spirit of God is gifting and nurturing us in unique ways to bring and encourage light, hope, and peace in this world. The constant challenge, or temptation, for every thriving congregation today is remaining focused on why God established the church in the first place.

The phrase “it’s not about you” resurfaces and gets tossed around from time to time. Whether it is a parent drawing a child back into recognizing the shared values of being a family, an employer focusing a crew or team to think and work on a shared goal or project, or a church staff working through a stack of requests, agendas, and expectations on any Monday afternoon ... the question always is: Who are we? Why are we here? Who are we accountable to? AND ... are we being faithful stewards of the gifts and callings of God?

In seminary, competing expectations and agendas are systematically brought to the fore for analysis, discussion, and exploration of how the gospel is informing the issue. One of my favorite seminary professors, Chuck Gerkin, used to ask: “Is the agenda informing the gospel or is the gospel informing the agenda?” His point was: there is a difference. It is tempting and easy to make demands out of our own agendas ... without exploring, asking, praying, and doing the patient work of discovering if a particular agenda is of God and is it faithful to Christ’s church?

As a minister with many experiences in walking with people through myriad challenges of life, I spend a good bit of time encouraging people to focus, claim faith, and patiently follow God. As a staff person at Country Club Christian Church I celebrate that we are clear and intentional about proclaiming God’s love as we know it through Jesus Christ in word and deed. I also celebrate that we are clear that the gospel, the good news, is our agenda. I know the motto is taken, but it just sounds good, exceptionally good: “Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Doors ... OPEN TABLE!” We are Country Club Christian Church of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)!

*Chuck*

## Mondays in March

Starting Mar. 2 and continuing through Mar. 30, David Diebold will offer insights in how to listen to sacred and secular music and how our culture is enriched by the presence of serious music in our lives. The class will meet from 7:15 to 8:30 p.m. in the Music Room (Rm. 100). Register through Mary Margaret House at 816-333-4917

or [marymargareth@cccckc.org](mailto:marymargareth@cccckc.org). If enough interest is shown in a daytime session, this class will be offered those dates at 9:15 a.m.

## Rummage Sale Coming in May

Mark your calendar for the week of May 3-9 for the all-church rummage sale. Help raise funds for Country Club Christian Church’s Outreach Ministry by donating gently used items. For information, contact Pat Martin, [patmartin1050@aol.com](mailto:patmartin1050@aol.com) or 816-590-7134.

## S.P.I.C.E. (Society for the Preservation of Interesting and Creative Eldership)

Plan to join us on Wed., Feb. 18, at 11:00 a.m. in the Social Hall for lunch and a program featuring Jackie Kennedy, as presented by Claudette



Walker. In addition to Jackie, Claudette is known for her presentations as Elizabeth Taylor, Julia Childs, Eleanor Roosevelt, Mary Todd Lincoln and more. Cost of the lunch is \$8 per person. RSVP to Mary Margaret House at [marymargareth@cccckc.org](mailto:marymargareth@cccckc.org) or 816-333-4917.

# Youth-Led Worship on Feb. 1

Thirty-five youth from CYF and Chi Rho planned and participated in the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. worship services on Feb. 1.



Communion leaders at the table were Stewart Jensen, Chris Martin and Jay Lehoczyk.



Leading prayers were Allyse Hackler and Riley Hoffman.



Fellowship Singers, under the direction of Laine Riley, performed. *Front row*, left to right: MaKenna Lockhart, Kellin Martiny, Joey Gamble, Miguel Murguía, David Gauwitz and Parker Hoffman. *Middle*: Lucy Lehoczyk, Betsy Dee, Steven Miles and Stewart Jensen. *Back row*: Kendra Martiny, Jansen Hess, Andrea Forsee, Meghan Jackson, Jack Dee, Daniel Stewart, Kurt Jensen and Riley Hoffman.

## ***It's Cool in the Furnace* Coming to You on Sun., Mar. 1**

Please mark your calendars for Sun., Mar. 1 when the Children's and Cherubim Choirs will be performing their third annual musical. *It's Cool in the Furnace*, by Buryl Red, is a wonderful retelling of the story of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. The children have been working hard on lines, songs and choreography. Please plan to join us in the Social Hall for a light lunch following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Lunch is \$6 per person. It will be a fantastic afternoon of fun and laughter for all generations that you won't want to miss.



2008 Musical "Oh Jonah"

## **Souper Bowl Nets \$957**

Chi Rho and CYF youth collected \$957 in donations Feb. 1 after worship services as part of the "Souper Bowl of Caring." Funds collected are directed to the charity each Disciples of Christ congregation selects. The 2009 donations at Country Club Christian Church will go to the Virginia Reed Food Drive. In 2007, monies went to Argentine Food Kitchen and Micah Ministry. Last year, nearly \$2,000 went to the Monthly Food Drive.

## **Pastors' Class Lock-in**

**Fri., Feb. 20 – Sat., Feb. 21**

Members of the Pastors' Class will gather at 7:00 p.m. on Fri., Feb. 20 in the Youth Center (Rm. 205) to begin our lock-in. Team building, faith exploration, time with Faith Mentors and a conversation about being a member of Country Club Christian Church will keep us busy until 11:00 a.m. Sat., Feb. 21. Contact Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn for information.

## **First Steps to Faithfulness**

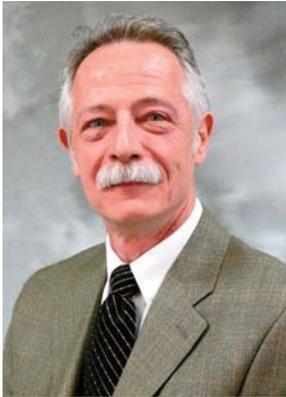
**Sun., Mar. 1**

New babies bring many questions. What foods should they eat? How much sleep should they get? What should they be doing at what age? There is so much information about the physical, emotional and intellectual development of your child – but what about their spiritual development? Join other parents of children 3 and under on Sun., Mar. 1 as we explore how your infant or toddler comes to know God and what our role as parents can be. Make time to meet other families, please feel free to bring your child(ren) with you. 9:55-10:55 a.m., Pine Room (Rm. 10).



## Power Surges

by Rev. David Diebold, Minister of Music



Have you experienced a power surge lately? I'm not talking about when a bolt of lightning strikes nearby and damages the appliances in your home. I'm thinking about the good kind ... the spiritual type of power surge: those times when out of the events of the moment we experience the powerful and overwhelming sense of the Divine.

Sometimes they occur when we see a beautiful landscape or marvel at the power of nature. Some of us experience them reading a novel, poem, or short story. Others have them during a concert or visit to an art gallery. We also experience power surges in worship. For some, they occur during the spoken word: the sermon, scripture, the prayers or invitation to communion. Others experience them through the hymns, anthems, or solos. Still others experience a surge through the combination of all of the above.

I experience power surges in a variety of ways as well. Sometimes, it is during an anthem that I might or might not be conducting. Other times, it is the confluence of spoken words that, when taken together, open a window to greater understanding. As a musician, I can explain to you the technical reasons a particular section of the music might be powerful or moving, but power surges do not always work just because a composer, writer, or preacher does everything flawlessly from a technical standpoint. The individuals rendering the words or music must be inspired. Recently, while I was listening to a great recording of a work the Chancel Choir is preparing, the movement I was listening to began moving toward its climax, and in a split second the confluence of the technical details, inspiration, and musical artistry lifted me from the chair where I was sitting and transported me to a place of unexpected beauty.

In our worship planning, Glen and I pay very close attention to the details of worship: the liturgical designation for the day, the scripture, and the direction of the sermon. Then, we ponder how the music might tie the spoken words together. Every detail is intended to lead us from our arrival in worship to our exit for service in the world around us. Somewhere in between those two moments you might experience a power surge.

*David*

## Children and Families

### Fountains of Faith Rotation

#### The Covenant: Woman with the Alabaster Jar

1st-5th graders will explore the story of the woman with the alabaster jar Feb. 8 – Mar. 1. Through a storytelling experience with the woman, games, an art project, and a taffy pull, children will have the opportunity to learn this story as told in the Gospel of Luke. The issue in that story is that the woman is a sinner and that Jesus forgives her of her sins. "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace." The new kingdom embraces everyone and forgives all sins. Check the location board in the children's wing for your class each week. We hope to see you from 9:55 to 10:55 a.m.

### 1st and 2nd Graders Mystery Trip

Sat., Mar. 7

All first and second graders are invited to join us for an outing to an undisclosed location! We will gather at church at 12:30 p.m. (eat lunch BEFORE you come) and head to our "mystery" location and activities returning to church by 4:30 p.m. Cost is \$7 per child. Wear layers for being inside and outside. Space is limited so RSVP soon to Mary Margaret at [marymargareth@cccckc.org](mailto:marymargareth@cccckc.org) or 816-333-4917.

### T.G.I.F. (This Group Is Fun)

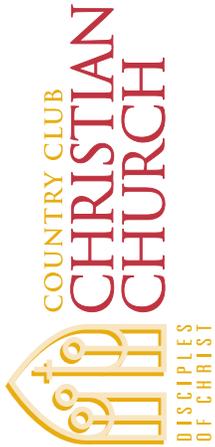
Parents with younger children are invited to gather for fellowship and fun the fourth Friday of each month. Our next gathering will be Fri., Feb. 27 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., hosted at the home of Catherine Stark-Corn and Brian Corn. Childcare will be at the church. Contact Catherine to RSVP at [catherinesc@cccckc.org](mailto:catherinesc@cccckc.org).

### Club Kids 3rd – 5th graders

Sun., Feb. 15 – No meeting.

Sun., Feb. 22 – Snow tubing at Snow Creek in Weston. Contact Catherine for more information, [catherinesc@cccckc.org](mailto:catherinesc@cccckc.org).

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## PROGRAM STAFF

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Senior Minister

**Rev. Carla Aday**  
Senior Associate Minister

**Rev. David Diebold**  
Minister of Music

**Rev. Cynthia Heller**  
Minister of  
Parish Visitation

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

**Dr. Charles Rolan**  
Interim Minister of  
Congregational Care

**Mr. Brian Campbell**  
Associate Organist

**Ms. Sandy Eisenman**  
Director of  
Financial Services

**Ms. Lisa McCleish**  
Director of Early  
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Associate Director  
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Director

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The Country Club Christian: Copy must reach this office by Monday ten days prior to publication. Editor: Lara Schopp, [laras@cccckc.org](mailto:laras@cccckc.org)

816-333-4917 fax: 816-333-7538  
email: [office@cccckc.org](mailto:office@cccckc.org) website: [www.cccckc.org](http://www.cccckc.org)

## Couple Communication

Learn practical communication skills to protect and sustain a vital partnership in our Couple Communication class on Saturdays, Feb. 21 and 28, from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

In this class you will develop confidence to communicate with your partner effectively, creating faster, better resolutions to conflict and increasing satisfaction in your relationship. Couples who were married at the church may take the course for free. For others, the cost is \$37. For more information, contact Rev. Carla Aday at [carlaa@cccckc.org](mailto:carlaa@cccckc.org) or Michelle Schlatter at [weddings@cccckc.org](mailto:weddings@cccckc.org) or call the church at 816-333-4917.

## Grace at Work Is Apr. 18

Mark your calendar for Sat., Apr. 18 to join in Grace at Work, a one-day volunteer opportunity to reach out to organizations in our community. During this church-wide event individuals are invited to experience fellowship while serving others and creating visible change in our community. A range of volunteer opportunities is available including projects on our campus. Sign up begins in late March.

## Our Church Family

### Congratulations

Congratulations to DANA STEPHAN and MATT GOOD who were married Jan. 3 in the Sanctuary.

### Memorials

THELMA B. FIELDS  
John & Erma Hess  
Perry & Jeanne Cockayne  
EDWARD A. SETZLER, JR.  
John & Erma Hess  
George & Travis Reichman  
EVELYN COCKAYNE  
John & Erma Hess  
WARREN A. BERGHOLT  
Marvel J. Bergholt

Bettie & John Williams  
Order of the Eastern Star  
Grandview Chapter #365  
Ann & Allen Smith  
John & Erma Hess  
Shiela Richards  
Linda Redford

**Permanent Missionary Fund**  
ROBERT L. WOLF  
Max & Sue Deweese

**Transportation Fund**  
ROBERT L. WOLF  
Pat Conway  
Homesteaders Class  
Carl & Bunnie Corbin