



# CHRISTIAN

Strength for the Journey. Grace for the Soul.

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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.*

## Pathways to Learning – City of God

May 6, 13, 20



The Bible mentions “the city” more than 850 times. This three-part series will look at poverty as a key challenge faced in our city today and how we can faithfully address poverty to build

up greater Kansas City. The series includes local experts on poverty as well as key metro leaders whose comprehensive approaches offer opportunity for all to get involved.

### May 6: The Face of Poverty

- Laura Bauer, *Kansas City Star* reporter for the series on childhood hunger
- Sister Berta Sailer, Co-Founder of Operation Breakthrough

- Dave Schmidt, a Brookside father whose family consciously set out on a social exercise to survive on a poverty-level budget for a year

### May 13: Our Community Response to Poverty

E. Frank Ellis, Chairperson and CEO, Swope Community Enterprises and Board Chair, Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce will cover the comprehensive approaches he is leading to address poverty in our metropolitan area.

### May 20: Kansas City – A Metro Approach to Poverty

Mayor Sly James will speak on initiatives in Kansas City and across the metro to build up greater Kansas City and stem poverty.

Sundays 9:55-10:55 a.m., Social Hall

## Grace At Work Crews Assist Community

On Sat., Mar. 31, 200 members and friends of Country Club Christian Church participated in Grace At Work. Spanning the city in 12 groups, volunteers dismantled a tree house, filled Easter baskets, cleaned the sanctuary, painted rooms, spread mulch, organized clothing racks and distributed food. Mark your calendars now for the fall Grace At Work on Sat., Sept. 15.



Above: Gretchen Hart, Suzanne Gordon and Nancy Ralston work on the rain garden.

Left: Juanita White, Annie Brabson, Clayton Hasser and Mary Margaret House sort clothes.



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## Strengthen Our Foundation

Our 2012 Stewardship Campaign begins this week with opportunities for us as a congregation to review the capital work that is currently underway and look to the future as we continue building our ministries and furthering our outreach. We invite you to join us in this campaign to strengthen our foundation.

### Coffees with Glen

Join Dr. Glen Miles at one of four gatherings as he presents our dreams for the coming year and, have an opportunity to discuss your hopes and wishes for our congregation's shared work. Please RSVP to 816-333-4917 or [marymargareth@cccckc.org](mailto:marymargareth@cccckc.org).

- Sun., Apr. 15, 10:00 a.m. in Social Hall, no reservation needed
- Wed., Apr. 18, 6:30 p.m. at the home of Barbara George
- Wed., Apr. 25, 6:30 p.m. at Leopold Gallery (324 W. 63 St.)
- Mon., Apr. 30, 6:30 p.m. at the home of Katie and James Cronin

### Simple Gifts

The sermon series for this year's campaign, "Simple Gifts," begins Sun., Apr. 22. Sermons will focus on the gifts of Earth, Faith, Hope and Love.



## Time to Update our Church Directory

Lifetouch Studios will be here on Fri., Apr. 27, and Sat., Apr. 28, to take your photo for a directory supplement. If your photo is not included in the current directory or you'd like to have your photo retaken, you are encouraged to sign up for a photo session. Complimentary supplements including photos and contact information will be available for anyone who has a current directory. Anyone who has their photo taken for the directory supplement will receive a complimentary 8x10 photo.

Sign up for an appointment on the church website at <http://cccckc.org/stay-informed.html>. Don't miss this opportunity to learn new faces in the church and give others an opportunity to learn yours!

## Imagine Christian Community Camp

Imagine going on vacation but never having to find a restaurant for dinner. Imagine hiking all day and then sitting down to a hot home-cooked meal that someone prepared for you! Imagine getting to fish all day while your spouse gets to do what he or she wants to do all day. Imagine the laughter and joy of your friends as they gather on the deck that overlooks an afternoon rainbow gracing the snow capped mountains. You don't have to keep imagining. You can experience all of this. Just sign up for Christian Community Camp in Estes Park, CO. The dates: July 28-Aug. 4, 2012.

**Accommodations:** We stay in two private lodges at the YMCA of the Rockies. Each family enjoys a private room with a private bath. In addition, a bunk room is available for single adults.

**Cost:** \$1,400 for a private room or \$225 for a bunk. Each participant also pays \$75 for food/activities for the week.

**Activities:** Enjoy your own schedule each day.

Choose a group hike, horseback riding, golf, fishing, craft shop, raft trip, boating, biking, scenic drive to the Continental divide; swimming, miniature golf, tennis, archery, reading on the porch overlooking the mountain and much more. In the evening you may join the group for a hayride, square dance or go-cart rides.



**For more information:** Call or email Jane Fletcher or Carla Aday at the church at 816-333-4917 or [carlaa@cccckc.org](mailto:carlaa@cccckc.org) or [janef@cccckc.org](mailto:janef@cccckc.org). A complete brochure is available on the church website at [www.ccccckc.org](http://www.ccccckc.org).



## After Easter

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



Easter asks us to name what we worry about and bring it to God. Easter asks us to face the things that we are afraid of the most (like death and taxes!) and place them on a cross shaped altar. Easter says “forget about being in control and give yourself to God.” Scott Black Johnston, a preacher in New York City, says that Easter helps us see “that the most solitary thing we can do—die is not something that we do alone.”

The question we must ask after Easter is this: Are we brave enough to look death in the face so

that we can get on to the task of living in the here and now?

Easter, finally, is all about laughter. It is the reversal of fortune, it is the surprise to end all surprises. It is about God having the last laugh over death. In the Eastern Orthodox Church they celebrate a day they call “hilariter.” It means hilarity or merriment. They tell jokes. They fall on their faces laughing. We don’t laugh on Good Friday. That is not a funny day. But after Easter we are expected to laugh! That reminds me of a story.

A man and his dog walk into an entertainment manager’s office. “My dog talks,” the man says. “Show me,” the manager directs. The man asks the dog, “What is on top of a house?” “Rrrroof.” “What does sandpaper feel like?” “Rrrrough.” “Who was the best baseball player of all time?” “Rrrruth.” The manager yells, “That’s it, get out of here. He doesn’t talk. You’re wasting my time!” As the man and the dog are walking away the dog looks up at his master and asks, “Dimaggio?”<sup>1</sup>

That is an Easter story. We don’t expect the dog to talk. We don’t go to a graveyard to find a corpse regenerating.

Do you want proof of Easter? Sorry but you won’t find that here. If we can prove Easter then faith is unimportant. We don’t prove Easter. It’s like a good joke; either you get it or you don’t.

Easter is the ultimate reversal of fortune. We don’t come to church to understand Easter. We come, as one preacher said, “to stand under Easter until we are blessed!”

Christ is risen. He is risen indeed! Grace and peace to you,

<sup>1</sup> The correct answer is “Mays!”

## Simple Gifts

The sermon series for this year’s campaign, “Simple Gifts,” begins Sun., Apr. 22. Sermons will focus on the gifts of Earth, Faith, Hope and Love.

April 22 – The Gift of the Earth  
*Genesis 2: 4-25*

April 29 – The Gift of Faith  
*Matthew 6:25-34*

May 6 – The Gift of Hope  
*Romans 5:1-5*

May 13 – The Gift of Love  
*I Corinthians 13: 1-13*

## Worship with us!

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

**April 15**

Rev. Carla Aday preaching  
Practicing Resurrection  
*Acts 4: 32-35*

**Stewardship Sermon Series**

**Simple Gifts**

**April 22**

The Gift of the Earth  
*Genesis 2: 4-25*

**April 29**

The Gift of Faith  
*Matthew 6:25-34*

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# Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

## Healing and Wholeness Prayer Service on May 22

Please join us for a peaceful time of song, scripture and prayer at 7:30 p.m. on Tues., May 22, in the Combs Chapel. This service offers an opportunity to share prayerful concerns as well as blessings. Come join a worship of grace and acceptance, a sacred place for prayer that will create moments where hope may carry you in the journey ahead. This service is a combination of the May and June services.

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## Haiti Mission Trip

If you are interested in going on the mission trip to Haiti Nov. 1-7, contact Julia Walker, [juya213@yahoo.com](mailto:juya213@yahoo.com), for more information.

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## Community Camp KC Wednesday evenings in June

We are making plans for our third annual summer family fellowship gatherings on Wednesday evenings in June (6, 13, 20, 27). Join us for dinner and lots of fun activities. Each Wednesday night will feature a different fun activity including Magic Bob, inflatables, water games and a petting zoo. Join us from 6:00-8:00 p.m. This time of intergenerational fellowship is inspired by the annual Community Camp in Estes Park, but closer to home!



## Easter Offering Will Help Empower Women

Thank you for your generous contributions to this year's Easter Offering. As of Thurs., Apr. 12, more than \$20,000 has been collected to help empower women. Recipients are "Por un Futuro Mejor" (For a better future), sponsored by El Centro which gives female survivors of domestic violence instruction in financial literacy and economic stability, and provides microenterprise loans as a springboard to starting small businesses, and a women's microcredit and savings project with The Community of Disciples of Christ in Congo Democratic Republic of Congo, which offers loans for women wanting to start a business or invest in another small business. Easter Offerings are still being received, so if you would still like to participate, please send your check, marked "Easter Offering" to the church office or drop it in the offering tray on Sunday.

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## Virginia Reed Food Drive on April 15

On Sun., Apr. 15, please bring your nonperishable food items for our collection for local food pantries that serve the homeless and hungry. Vans will be in the parking lot to receive your food or it can be placed in the barrels located at the east and north doors. We also purchase food in case lots for the pantries, so cash donations are welcome. Please mark your donation "Food Drive."

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## Follow Us on Facebook

Are you a fan of Country Club Christian Church on Facebook? The church's Facebook page includes photos, information and an option for you to leave messages. You can sign up to be a follower if you have a Facebook account. If you don't have an account, you can create a free one. The church already has more than 500 people following us on Facebook. Join the fun. Just go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com).



## The Well Book Corner

Do you need books for your children or grandchildren? Do you need a Bible to use in your Bible study? Would you like to read a book mentioned in a sermon or a minister's column in *The Christian*? Then visit The Well, our book and gift store on the ground floor of the church



The Well also features gifts for everyone, including wonderful Fair Trade items from around the world. Shoppers will find jewelry, scarves, CDs and handmade items from Nicaragua. The proceeds go to Week of Compassion, which provides emergency disaster relief to peoples around the world.

Or you can shop at home through Amazon to benefit Week of Compassion. If you use the Amazon search function on The Well's web page, a percentage of the purchase price is directed to Week of Compassion. Go to [www.ccckc.org](http://www.ccckc.org) and click The Well in the top right-hand corner, then follow the instructions.



The Well is open on Sunday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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## Coming Home

by Lauren Weinhold, Director of Church Growth



After the festivities at church on Easter Sunday, my husband and I headed home to cross the next thing off our agenda for the day...nap. Fashionably donning sweatpants and old t-shirts, we quieted the dogs with chew bones and turned off our cell phones. We were anxiously awaiting a few hours of uninterrupted solace. Then, as if to affirm God's sense of humor, the doorbell rang. I bolted out of bed and scurried down the stairs quietly praying that whoever had come to our door might have given up and moved on by the time I got there.

I opened the door and a well-dressed man with silver hair introduced himself. "Hi, my name is Harry and I lived in this house for nearly 20 years. My family and I live in Florida now, but I'm back in Kansas City on business, so I thought I'd just stop by and see the ol' place. Would you mind if I wandered around the outside?"

I quickly invited him in and gave him the 30-second tour of the house he remembered so fondly. He pointed out improvements that he and his wife had made and complimented our efforts to tackle a few aesthetic projects. After nearly an hour of stories about the neighborhood, in-depth discussions of roofing and plumbing, and a few glasses of iced tea, Harry apologized for occupying our afternoon and made his way towards his rental car.

As he was leaving, he commented that he'd have to bring his wife by the house the next time he passed through town. "She'd love to see how happy the house is," he said. "You're welcome home anytime," I said as I shook his hand. We exchanged information and I extended an open invitation to dinner the next time he and Carol came in town. "Thanks for making me feel so at home on Easter Sunday," he said. With a tear in his eye, he added, "This was a great resurrection."

My hope is that the nearly 250 guests who joined us for worship earlier that day had an experience similar to Harry's. I pray they felt at home. I pray they want to come back. I pray they experienced some kind of a resurrection. Thanks to each of you who extended a hand, shared a smile or learned someone's name.

## Helzberg Organ Recital

Hear the new Helzberg Organ in Helzberg Hall at the Kaufman Center for the Performing Arts on Tues., Apr. 24, at 7:00 p.m. Our own David Diebold, Minister of Music, will be performing along with Charles Miller, Minister for Music at the National City Christian Church in Washington, DC. Proceeds will benefit the National City Christian Church Foundation to help repair earthquake damage to the structure and organ. Both Mr. Miller and Rev. Diebold have planned an "audience friendly" program of music to showcase the new Casavant Organ in Helzberg Hall. This will be the second public performance on the new instrument. Tickets are \$21.00 through the Kauffman Center ticket office or for just \$15.00 if you purchase them in the Parlor on Sun., Apr. 15 and 22.



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## Upcoming Youth Events

### Youth Group

6:00-8:00 p.m.

**Apr. 15** – Salvation Army Children’s Shelter

**Apr. 22** – Earth Day outside activities and worship. Youth won’t want to miss this!

### CYF Mission Trip

Join your fellow youth Sun., July 15 - Sat., July 21 in Chicago, Illinois as we “Walk, Love, Do” in the windy city. We will continue to work with those organizations that have helped us serve the hungry. Cost is \$350. RSVP to Justin at [justinz@cccckc.org](mailto:justinz@cccckc.org) ASAP.

### Chi Rho Mission Trip

Join your fellow youth Sun., June 24 - Thurs., June 28 in St. Louis, MO. Be part of “Walk, Love, Do” as we work with organizations that help end hunger

and violence in people’s homes. Cost is \$250. RSVP to Justin at [justinz@cccckc.org](mailto:justinz@cccckc.org) ASAP.

### Summer Camps

Summer camp at Tall Oaks Camp and Conference Center is fun! Visit [www.talloaks.org](http://www.talloaks.org) for more information or to register. Summer camp opportunities include day camps for K-2nd graders, overnight camps for 2nd-high school and grandparents camps. Early Bird discounts due Apr. 30. You can register online. Fees are paid to Country Club Christian Church and will be sent by our church to the camp. Questions contact Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn at [catherinesc@cccckc.org](mailto:catherinesc@cccckc.org).

### Justin’s Blog

Justin is blogging about a new faith practice every month. A “faith practice” is incorporating something into daily

life that helps us see God in the world. Every month Justin will notify youth and families of what his new faith practice will be and asks that others follow his blog and help keep him accountable in his journey. Find Justin’s blog on the church website ([www.cccckc.org](http://www.cccckc.org)).

### Family Mission Trip to Joplin

Families with children in elementary school or older are invited to participate in the Family Mission Trip, Thur., June 7–Sun., June 10. We will be working and staying in the Joplin area to help continue the recovery and rebuild effort after the 2011 tornado. Our families will work under the direction of AmeriCorps to plant trees and gardens; help paint and do simple clean up jobs and more. We will be housed in a local church. If you are interested, contact Catherine Stark-Corn at [catherinesc@cccckc.org](mailto:catherinesc@cccckc.org).

## Pastors’ Class Participants Baptized

Twelve youth at Country Club Christian Church have taken part in the 2012 Pastors’ Class, led by Justin Zeigler, Minister to Youth. On Palm Sunday, Apr. 1, these individuals made formal statements of their faith and some were baptized during the 11:00 a.m. service.



Top row: Dr. Glen Miles, Xander Hulsey, Ethan Niewald, Margo Hunter, Justin Zeigler. Middle row: Laura Adams, Chloe Kowalski, Garyce-Anne Peters, Garrett Moffat, Taylor Corn. Bottom row: Grace Reiman, Sophie Nearmyer, Lita Lockhart, Samuel Berry.



## Eager to Share

by Carla Aday, Senior Associate Minister



Can you imagine being hungry? No, I mean really hungry? Not like, hungry for a favorite food or restaurant or candy. But just hungry. Hungry for enough to eat. Hungry to find food for your children or elderly parents. Hungry enough to wait two hours in line to receive a box of day old bakery goods and donated fresh produce.

On a beautiful spring Saturday morning, my husband, Dave, my son, Connor, and I showed up in a parking lot at a church in south Kansas City. We had been sent there as part of the Grace at Work team organized by our church. Waiting there in the front parking lot were more than 100 cars, filled with families waiting to receive food. Busily working in the lower parking lot behind the church was a team of two dozen folks unloading fresh carrots, potatoes, lettuce and bakery items from a Harvesters truck. Once all the food was unloaded, we sorted it into piles. Then an assembly line formed to fill boxes of fresh food for each of the waiting families.

My favorite part of the assembly process was the bakery items. Several pre-teen boys and a few dads worked this area diligently. They first made a huge pile of all the breads – English muffins, bagels, dinner rolls, sour dough loaves. Then off to the side, they carefully stacked the more delicate dessert items – iced cakes, monster cookies, apple pies, chocolate iced brownies. Once the boxes were filled with produce, these boys and men topped off each box with soft bread and a dessert item. “Someone is going to be so happy to receive this delicious cake,” one boy announced. “Oh, wow, look at these great big cookies,” another declared. They smiled, salivated and smacked their own lips as they enthusiastically placed the treats on the top of each box.

I laughed and smiled at their eagerness to share what they so clearly loved themselves. And I thought that surely this was how God gives to each of us – eagerly, enthusiastically. God wants us to taste the goodness. God wants us to know the joy. And so with delight, God places before us a banquet table of life filled with bread and wine. Sometimes we don’t notice that behind the gift is a giver eager to share the true delight with all of us who are truly hungry for life.

*Carla*

## Children and Families Fountains of Faith Sunday School

### Wisdom & Prophets: Into the World

Throughout the year the 1st–5th graders have explored the role of the prophet. This final rotation of the cycle will help the children review some of the key experiences and explore prophets from our contemporary society and our own faith community. Through cooking, a scavenger hunt, storytelling and more children will have opportunities to connect the Biblical prophets to their lives today. See you from 9:55 -10:55 a.m. on the second floor children’s wing.

### Club Kids (3rd-5th graders)

**Sun., Apr. 15** – 5:00-7:00 p.m.

**Apr. 21-22** – Omaha Overnight (no Sunday evening session)

**Sun., Apr. 29** – 5:00-7:00 p.m.

### Moms Group

Join other mothers in volunteering at Rose Brooks, Tues., Apr. 24 from 9:30-11:15 a.m. It’s a great way to get out and connect with other moms while helping break the cycle of domestic violence. We volunteer the fourth Tuesday of each month. Please contact Karla Herrington at [karlah@cccckc.org](mailto:karlah@cccckc.org) for more information.

### Vacation Bible School

**July 23-27, 9:00 a.m.-Noon**

Make plans to attend our annual summer VBS. This year the theme is *SonSurf Beach Bash*. We will learn about various parts of Jesus’ life and how we can seek to live in God’s way. For ages 4 years old-5th grade (completed in May 2012). Save the dates!



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Return Service Requested

# Our Church Family

## Sympathy

MARJORIE F. SCOTT passed away Mar. 30. The memorial service was Apr. 2 at Kingswood Manor, Rev. Chuck Murphy officiating.

VIRGINIA A. "GINNY" COX passed away Apr. 8 in Omaha, NB. She is survived by her husband, Hardin. The service was Apr. 11 in Rock Port, MO.

JOHN NORMAN ALLRED passed away Apr. 7. He is survived by a son, John Allred. The memorial service will be at 1:00 p.m. Apr. 13 at Mt. Moriah & Freeman Funeral Home, 10507 Holmes, Kansas City, MO.

## Memorials

**Jim Martin**

Patty Ives

**Sandy Eisenman**

Leta Mae Hodkins

## PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. R. Glen Miles  
Senior Minister

Ms. Karla Herrington  
Director of Children's  
Ministries

Rev. Carla Aday  
Senior Associate Minister

Rev. Steve Mason  
Pastoral Resident

Rev. David Diebold  
Minister of Music

Mr. Brian Mathias  
Associate Organist

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

Ms. Lisa McCleish  
Director of Early  
Childhood Programs

Rev. Chuck Murphy  
Minister of Congregational  
Care

Ms. Laine Riley  
Associate Director of Music

Mr. Justin Zeigler  
Minister to Youth

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