



DISCIPLES
OF CHRIST

VOLUME 83 · NUMBER 12

COUNTRY CLUB

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,
dedication to
spiritual growth
through
worship, study
and service.*

New Bible Study Opportunities Begin this Fall

Starting in September you have a whole new set of options for Bible study at Country Club Christian Church. Whether you're looking for a short- or long-term class; if you want to meet weekly or less frequently; or if you're seeking a variety of study and leadership opportunities, there is a class or series of classes which will appeal to you. Check out the new and familiar options below to design your own course of study for the next year.

Disciple Bible Study – Three Class Options
The Disciple Bible Study (DBS) series offers participants an in-depth study of scripture, during which participants are strengthened in their faith and guided into service and ministry. Using biblical language and images, the study draws upon the work of scholars to aid understanding of the Bible. These studies require reading large portions of scripture in preparation for each class. All days and times to be announced. Participation options include:

DBS I – For those who want to read the Bible from start to finish and can commit to a year-long course of study. One DBS I group will meet weekly for 33 weeks on a weekday. A second group will meet twice each month in an evening session. Each will require daily reading and preparation for discussion. Participants must start in the first weeks of the course and should commit for the entire study.

DBS III – For individuals who have already taken DBS I or II. This 33-week intensive

study is divided into two segments, the first concentrating on the books of the prophets and the second on Paul's letters. Requires daily reading and preparation for discussion, and participants must start in the first weeks of the course and should commit for the entire study.

DBS Mini – Two Disciple Bible Study groups will be offered for individuals who prefer a short-term Bible study. Offered both in the fall and in the spring, these will be 6-8 week courses which meet weekly for two-hour sessions, featuring the same level of intensive study offered in DBS I and III. Participants should be prepared to commit to the entire duration.

Senior Minister's Bible Study

In October, Dr. R. Glen Miles leads a four-week Bible study entitled *Money, Sex and Power: Hot Topics in the Bible*. Monday evenings, Oct. 5, 12, 19 and 26 at 7:00 p.m.

ABC – Basic Christianity

In January 2010, join this introductory Bible study designed for the questioning Christian and focusing on basic topics related to faith and spirituality. The series, led by the church's clergy, allows you to ask the questions you've always wanted to ask but never have. A perfect first-time Bible study, ABC follows the book *To Begin at the Beginning*, by Martin B. Copenhaver. Days and times to be announced.

continued on page 2



Newsletter Going Greener

Copies to be Available for Pickup on Sunday Mornings

Beginning in July, the *Country Club Christian* newsletter is taking another step in the church's efforts to reduce expenses in the wake of challenging economic times, while at the same time being kinder to the environment.

If you currently receive the newsletter by mail, starting on Sun., July 12, you may pick up your copy every other Sunday morning after you attend worship. The newsletter will no longer be available by mail, except for members who are home bound or who have already paid the subscription donation.

The newsletter will continue to be sent via e-mail every other week and

will be posted on the church's web site at cccckc.org/stay-informed. The electronic version even features color photos! If you would like to receive the newsletter via e-mail, please forward your address to Jane Fletcher at janef@cccckc.org.

By virtually eliminating the mailed version of the newsletter, we will reduce the overall number of newsletters printed, which will save paper and ink, reducing the associated costs. We will also recognize significant savings on postage.

Starting July 12, look for your hard copy of the newsletter in the Parlor or narthex.



Please Complete Your Pledge Card

If you have not yet returned your pledge card, please do so as soon as possible. To prepare our church budget, we need to know what our income will be. Whether your pledge is large or small, every gift counts and every gift matters.

The ever-growing ministries and missions of our church are supported solely by your financial commitment. All of our ministries are funded and staffed because of the generosity of our members and friends who make annual pledges and gifts.

If you have never made a pledge, please consider one this year. If you make an annual pledge, please consider increasing it. Drop your card in the mail or bring it to the office.

Bible Study, *continued from page 1*

Bible Workbench

During Lent, we will offer another series of Bible Workbench, a study experience in which small groups will hold weekly discussions on the scripture on which Dr. Miles will preach the following Sunday. The study will include solid scholarly wisdom, modern literature and personal reflection questions, enabling participants to see how the ancient stories of the Bible unfold anew in our shared journey of life today. A variety of different groups will be meeting at various times and locations. Watch for sign-up information in early 2010.

Annual Ice Cream Social Sunday, July 5

Mark your calendar for the annual Country Club Christian Church Ice Cream Social on Sun., July 5, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Join us for hot dogs, iced tea, lemonade, and ice cream! Reservations may be made by contacting Mary Margaret at marymargareth@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917.



New Church Directory

Don't miss your chance to be included in the next church directory! On-line and Sunday sign-ups will begin in mid-July. LifeTouch photographers will be here the weeks of Aug. 10 and 17 to take photographs. Directories and purchased photos will be here in plenty of time for the holidays. Watch for more information coming soon.



Notes from the Cutting Room Floor

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



I have been playing with an idea for an online blog for a long time. Lara Schopp, our multi-talented Director of Communications, has convinced me (finally!) to get it going.

The blog will be titled, “Notes from the Cutting Room Floor.” I will use the blog as a place to share some of the thoughts, ideas, illustrations and quotes that, for one reason or another, did not make it into the previous week’s sermon. I am hopeful that you will find it thought-provoking while also providing a

glimpse into the creative process of developing a sermon.

For example, one of the quotes that didn’t make it to the sermon comes from the brilliant mind of Paul Tillich: “Forgiveness is remembering the past in order that it might be forgotten.” I love this idea but the focus of the sermon was not (strictly speaking) on forgiveness and I did not want to derail the train of thought that I was trying to follow. Nonetheless, I love the idea that Tillich is trying to get across: the act of remembering allows us to live out forgiveness.

Another idea that didn’t get in was one from Karl Barth, who is perhaps the greatest theologian of the last century. He wrote thousands of pages on theology but he arrived at this basic definition of God: “The One who loves.” You may hear that one in a sermon I am working on for Festival Sunday in August.

I’ve been reading a book by Rob Bell, an evangelical pastor who is living on the cutting edge of theology. The book is *Velvet Elvis*. He had a fascinating take on Jesus’ words in John 14: “Jesus at one point claimed to be ‘the way, the truth and the life.’ Jesus was not making claims about one religion being better than all other religions. That completely misses the point, the depth, and the truth. Rather, he was telling those who were following him that his way is the way to the depth of reality. The kind of life Jesus was living, perfectly and completely in connection and cooperation with God, is the best possible way for a person to live. It is how things are.”

I’m going to need some more time to ponder this idea but I love the implication of his thought, that is: Jesus’ way will lead, right now, to a life that is based on truth and love and grace. It is not necessarily the easiest road to follow but it is one that could transform your life, your family, and if enough of us take it as our way, our community, even!

I look forward to sharing some more notes from the cutting room floor.

Grace and peace to you,

Senior Minister’s Blog

Glen’s blog can be found on the church’s web site at www.cccckc.org by clicking About Us then Senior Minister then Blog or paste <http://www.cccckc.org/about-us/senior-minister/blog.html> into your browser address bar.

New Member Sunday June 28

Are you are interested in becoming a part of the Country Club Christian Church family? Join us on Sun., June 28, for the next New Member Sunday, as we welcome new members into the life of our congregation. If you would like to join the church that day, please contact Lauren Weinhold, Director of Church Growth, at laurenw@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917.

Worship with us!

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

June 21

Why Are You Afraid?

Mark 4: 35-41

Dr. R. Glen Miles preaching at
9:00, 10:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Justin Zeigler
preaching at 8:00 a.m.

June 28

Risky Faith

Mark 5: 21-43

Dr. R. Glen Miles preaching at
8:00, 9:00, 10:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church



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.

Sunday School – Join us in Room 302 every Sunday from 9:55-10:55 a.m. This month: Inner Healing – or dealing with “baggage” with Pat Jessee on June 21; Empowerment with David Showalter and Karen Cook on July 5.

Monday Night Bible Study – Monday nights from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in Rm. 302. Rick Cook is leading a study on Genesis.

Blueberry Picking on June 27 – Meet at the church at 8:00 a.m. to carpool to The Berry Patch, 221st and Holmes to spend a fun morning picking blueberries. Contact Betsy Wilson at betcwilsonkc@yahoo.com or 913-220-1059 Suzy Spencer at insurance66208@yahoo.com or 913-262-0088.

YaWhose Young Adults in their 20s and 30s

The group, which includes couples and singles, hosts four quarterly special events and four quarterly Sunday lunches, in addition to meeting on Sunday mornings from 9:55 to 10:55 a.m.

Religion in the Movies – In June, we are meeting with Crossroads for a series about religion in the movies. It is recommended that you watch “The Color Purple” and “The Straight Story.”

Upcoming Mission Trips

Several mission trip opportunities for youth and adults are planned for the coming months, including:

6th/7th graders, St. Louis, July 19-23—For more information on this mission and service-based trip for 6th and 7th graders, contact Justin Zeigler at justinz@cccckc.org.

New Orleans, Nov. 8-14—A team makes its fifth trip to Metairie, LA, to continue with rebuilding projects in hurricane-decimated areas. The trip will be led by Dr. Chuck Rolen and Kelley Quinn. For more information, contact Kelley at elmokitty@everestkc.net.

Nicaragua, Feb. 20-28, 2010—Return with us to Nicaragua to work among the poorest of the poor in a rural village. For more information, contact Stephanie Pilkington at spilkington@awginc.com.

June Collection Connection

Donate Old Hearing Aids and Eyeglasses

Do you wear hearing aids, or know somebody who does? Do you have old prescription eyeglasses? Are there discarded ones sitting in drawers or boxes because they seem too expensive to throw away but no longer serve their purpose?

Children’s Mercy Hospital Hearing and Speech Clinic has an arrangement with a company that recycles discarded aids so hearing-impaired children can hear. If you would like to contribute one or more hearing aids, put the aid(s) in a plastic bag, enclose the name and address of the contributor, and place it in the box in the parlor.

Prescription eyeglasses are being collected in conjunction with Lion’s Club International during the same period.

Kingswood Senior Living Community will take them to the clinic and to the Lion’s Club.

Christmas in Branson

It’s time to make plans to go to Branson for our “Triple-S” Christmas trip: “Sights, Shows, and Shopping!” This is a three-day, two-night, mid-week, trip during early December. If you are interested in going, please contact Dr. Charles Rolen, Interim Minister of Congregational Care, at chuckr@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917. Deadline for indicating your interest is Friday, June 26. The trip is open to all Country Club Christian Church members and friends of our congregation. The cost per person will be established after we decide if we’re going.

STEPHEN MINISTRY



Stephen Ministry

The monthly meeting of Stephen Ministers will be on Sun., June 28, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. in the

Solarium, Rm. 309. All Stephen Ministers are requested to attend.



New Media

by Lara Schopp, Director of Communications



As I write this column, I've just added a tweet to the church's Twitter feed to let our "tweeps" know what we're doing today. Later I'm going to update my status on Facebook and look at how ping.fm might help me save time updating across multiple social networking platforms. I've been contemplating setting up a LinkedIn profile for the church, and later I'm going to create a Google profile so I can load it with key words which will help boost our Google ranking.

If you have no idea what I'm talking about, don't worry. You're not alone. But you might be soon...

Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn are social networking web sites. Google, a more well-known entity, is one of the world's largest internet tools. Google allows you to do everything from e-mail to research to finding directions and about a billion other things you'd never think you needed to do until you realized Google does it. All of these web sites, and others, are what I categorize as new media tools, and the church has begun using them to help connect with our members and for marketing purposes.

Why, you ask? Haven't we been getting by with our traditional tools, such as the newspaper ad and our newsletter? We have, but as budgets go down and costs go up, we find ourselves in need of innovative ways to communicate. More importantly, new media web sites—most of which are free to use—are growing exponentially, and if we aren't using them, we will very quickly find ourselves way behind our peer congregations.

Don't believe me? Consider these statistics: Ninety-six percent of people search the internet before they make a phone call or visit. Facebook gains 250,000 new users *daily*, and the fastest growing group of new users is 35 years old or older. LinkedIn has 30 million users. Research shows that organizations which are active on social media sites can reduce their marketing budgets without reducing effectiveness of the messaging.

Are you going to have to get up to speed on all of these tools to know what's going on at church? No, of course not. But I encourage you to give one, like Facebook, a try. Think you're not computer savvy enough? Think again. A family friend in his 80s who is nearly blind is one of my most active Facebook friends.

Check out the column on the right for more information on the church's Twitter page, and watch for more updates on our use of these innovative new tools in the coming months.

Lara

Follow Us on Twitter

Country Club Christian Church is twittering! Twitter is a free social networking and micro-blogging service that enables its users to send and read other users' updates, known as tweets. Friends, family, and co-workers can stay connected through the exchange of quick, frequent answers to one simple question: What are you doing?

You can follow us by going to www.twitter.com/ccckc or if you have a Twitter account, sign in. To see the church's tweets, type "ccckc" in the search box in the column on the right. If you don't have an account, you can create a free one.

You can sign up to follow our tweets. Following someone on Twitter means getting their updates in your personal timeline. If you follow Country Club Christian Church, you'll get our updates on your Twitter homepage when you log in, or on your phone if you've added it.

Food Drive on June 21

On Sun., June 21, please bring your non-perishable 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. Food items needed include peanut butter, cereal, rice, pasta, and canned fruits, vegetables and soups. We also purchase food in case lots for the pantries, so cash donations are welcome. Please mark your donation "Food Drive."

Youth Sunday School Teachers Celebrated

It takes a special person to sit with a group of youth and teach Sunday school. To walk with a young person in faith and be given the title of teacher can be daunting, but a group of volunteers has done just that with the youth of Country Club Christian Church.

On May 31, the youth Sunday School program celebrated the service of its volunteer teachers and thanked them for their service. In their years of service the teachers have watched the youth grow from middle schoolers to young adults and walked with

them the entire way. The teachers had an opportunity to say thank you and be thanked for that journey as it was their last youth Sunday School session as teachers.

With the new Children, Youth and Families Ministry model, the Directors of Middle and High School Ministries will be teaching the classes on Sunday mornings. The youth ministry program thanks the volunteers for their time, energy, and love that has been shared with the youth program through the years.



Using “The Opray Show” format, Justin Zeigler, Director of Middle School Ministries, celebrated the work of youth Sunday school teachers (from left) Susan Gann, Greg Bates, John Trewolla and Kip Kubin.

VBS to Feature Crocodile Dock

July 27-31

Calling all kids 4 years old through fifth grade to join us this summer at Crocodile Dock from 9 a.m.

to noon on July 27-31. At

Crocodile Dock, kids will keep an eye out for “God in action” in their everyday lives—and they’ll discover how they can be a God Sighting by showing Christ’s love. Our children will develop a sense of God’s loving presence. And they’ll know God is alive...and active...and with them! Storytelling, cooking, and more!



The cost is \$7 per child per day with a maximum cost per family of \$65. Sign up now as group sizes are limited. Registration forms are available online at www.cccckc.org or in the education wing on the second floor. Submit your registration form with payment to Chris Trout in the church office.

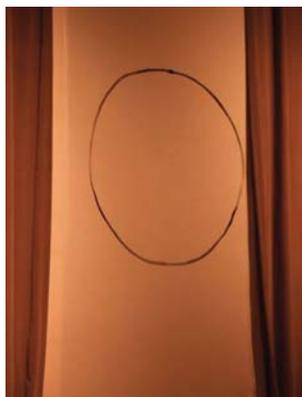
We also need adult and youth volunteer. Please contact Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn at catherinesc@cccckc.org.

Keepers of Creation Performance Painting

On May 31, the Sunday School classes experienced “God Said It Is Good” performance painting. With Lauren Weinhold, Director of Church Growth, as the artist and Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn as the storyteller, the children watched the painting being

created as they heard the story.

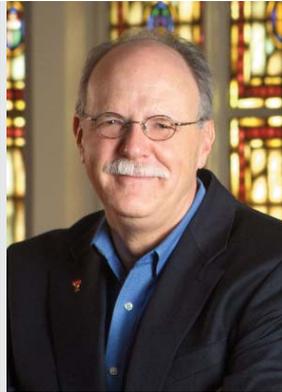
Summer Sunday School sessions are focused on God’s good creation and how we can care for the environment and the world. Many of the summer Sundays classes have been combined in the Social Hall to allow for 3½ year olds through children just completing 5th grade to participate in these special activities.





Open Door of Grace

by Dr. Charles Rolen, Interim Minister of Congregational Care



Summer is here. Since Linda and I first arrived in Kansas City, people have promised beautiful days. The promises came true. The surge of new life and beauty is dramatic and breathtaking. One of the things I enjoy about the warm months is the influx of birds.

I've always been fascinated by birds and have a story that occurred while living in Georgia. Linda and I were moving into a new house and the garage was crammed full of boxes. One day, while hunting and pecking our way through a pile, we heard a noise. We discovered a ruffled-up, bright green and yellow-bellied bird perched on a shelf. She had probably flown into the garage the evening before and had spent a long, nervous night.

You can imagine the chain of events ... we open the garage door and try to "shoo" the bird out. We move ... the bird darts, but instead of the direction of the huge opening where blue skies awaited, the bird flies toward the window on the side of the garage and bounces off of the glass. Shaken, but undeterred, she keeps studying and trying to get through the window ... all the while ignoring the open garage door only a few feet away. Because of our schedules, simply leaving the garage door open and trusting the bird would eventually discover its way out was not an option.

It was hard for Linda and me to watch this beautiful creature struggle. I wondered if this was the type of pain God feels when we keep insisting on paths and ways that are not helpful, hopeful, or faithful to the potentials of life. When I read the gospels, I find Jesus assuring us that God is waving, inviting, pointing, and whispering to every heart: "Fly through the open door of grace and soar to the heights of my love! The Table of grace and forgiveness is set and the path is clear. Life ... life abundant and life eternal is this way!"

All in all, the saga of the little bird lasted only a few more minutes. While she was perched on the windowsill trying to figure out why she could not pass through the glass, I went out and around the side of the garage and looked in. The bird took one look at me, said to herself "that's scary!" and flew straight out the open garage door chirping with joy!

Blessings as you discover and fly the currents of God's grace and joy.

Chuck

Summer Sunday School Keepers of Creation

We are excited about the upcoming summer Sunday School sessions focused on God's good creation and how we can care for the environment and the world. Many of the summer Sundays classes will be combined in the Social Hall to allow for 3½ year olds through children just completing 5th grade to participate in these special activities. Here is a sampling of what we will be doing: **June 21 – Worthy Worms.** Join us as Mark Manning, Director of KCK Community Gardens Project, teaches us about how worms help us recycle and care for the earth. This hands-on session will give us a new appreciation for a little garden creature doing a big job!

June 28 – Three R's. Come and explore how we can reduce, reuse and recycle as a way of caring for God's amazing creation. Through a range of activities we will get tips and practical ideas for being stewards of the earth.

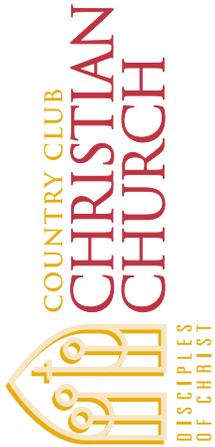
We will meet in the Social Hall from 9:55 – 10:55 a.m.

TGIF – This Group Is Fun

Friday, June 26, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Parents with younger children are invited to join us for an evening of fun and fellowship at the home of Doug and Maria Hedrick, 8832 Fairway St., Leawood, KS. Bring an appetizer to share. Childcare provided at church beginning at 5:45 p.m. RSVP to Karla at karlah@cccckc.org.

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Rev. David Diebold
Minister of Music

Rev. Cynthia Heller
Minister of
Parish Visitation

Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn
Minister to Children
and Families

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Interim Minister of
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Ms. Lara Schopp
Director of Communications

Ms. Lauren Weinhold
Director of Church Growth

Ms. Marilyn Wimer
Director of
Administrative Services

Mr. Brandon Winstead
Director of High School
Ministries

Mr. Justin Zeigler
Director of Middle School
Ministries

Our Church Family

Congratulations

Congratulations to EVIN SCHULAR and RICK FELIX who were married May 2 in the Sanctuary.

Congratulations to PEGGY FORD and ROBERT FORD who were married May 9 in the Sanctuary.

Congratulations to RACHEL DANGOS and TIMOTHY GRUNDELL who were married May 16 in the Sanctuary.

Congratulations to JENNIFER ROARK and SCOTT MORGAN who were married May 23 in the Sanctuary.

Congratulations to AMY HENDERSON and PATRICK EDWARDS who were married May 30 in the Sanctuary.

Memorials

JAMES W. HOPKINS

Tom & Sonja Hirsch

Susie & Bob Evans

Bonnie Blythe & Doug Dee

John & Martha Jane Stewart

JOHN WHEAT

Bonnie Blythe & Doug Dee

Nancy Ralston

RONALD HOFFMAN

Bonnie Blythe & Doug Dee

ROBERT W. SEE

Bonnie Blythe & Doug Dee

Nancy Ralston

Vera Golly

MARYLYN ATHA

Al & Peggy Lane

VIRGINIA T. GORDON

Nancy Ralston

Vera Golly

LETHA BASH

John & Martha Jane Stewart

Music & Outreach

Endowment Funds

GEORGE V. NICHOLS

Carty & Peggy Johannsen

Alan & Susan Garner

Marilyn & Jack Waller

Bob & Belinda Waldo

Micky Prelogar

Bonnie Blythe & Doug Dee

Wilber & Mary Lou

Spalding

Dale & Jonna Hunter

Anniversary Class

Nancy Ralston

John & Martha Jane Stewart

Permanent Missionary Fund

HELEN RUTH WILLIAMS

Carty & Peggy Johannsen

Martha Jo Strickler

Amer. Legion Aux. 5th

District

Vera Golly

Evelyn Roberts

Boy Scout Scholarship Fund

ROBERT A. RAMSEYER

Nancy Ralston

John & Martha Jane Stewart

Dan & Margaret Murray

Vera Golly

Library Memorial Fund

FRED E. SHROUT

John & Martha Jane Stewart

Outreach Fund

ROBERT W. SEE

John & Martha Jane Stewart

Pastoral Care Fund

VIRGINIA T. GORDON

John & Martha Jane Stewart

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