

VOLUME 86, NUMBER 13

# **COUNTRY CLUB** JHRISTI

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.

# Family Mission Trip to Joplin Report

Twenty-one children, youth and adults traveled to Joplin, Mo., June 7-10 for the 2012 Family Mission Trip. Through the direction of Americorps, the team completed various projects, including helping displaced Joplin residents pack for moving into more permanent housing; yard work and debris removal on a recently rebuilt home; and demolition and debris removal on a home which was leveled by the storm.

In addition, the team visited the Spiva Center for the Arts' exhibit "Dear World, From Joplin with Love," an installation marking the one-year anniversary of the tornado which killed 161 people and created \$2.8 billion in damage.

Much clean up and new construction has been

completed since the 2011 tornado but much work remains The hospital stands an empty shell



across the street from the new Cunningham Park and Memorial Garden. The site where the high school once stood is filled with stone rubble, the building having only recently been razed. Hundreds of trees, stripped of branches and leaves, stand naked awaiting the new growth that could take several years.



Team members: front row, Cheryl Commerford, Michaela O'Connor, Shelby Sailor, Caroline Schopp, Ross Commerford, Elizabeth Crocker, Parker Hoffman, Becky Crocker, Anne Hoffman, Glenn Crocker. Back row: Mary Lynn O'Connor, Lara Schopp, Catherine Stark-Corn, Margo Hunter, Jane Commerford, Josephine McCray, Marie Hunter, Amelia Commerford, Taylor Corn, Ben Corcker, Tepring Crocker.

Glenn Crocker, who spent one afternoon tediously combing a yard for glass shards, noted that children in this part of town won't be able to run outside barefoot for years to come.

Still, groups of spirited children

crowded Cunningham Park each day, and signs of hope and perseverance persist, such as the star-shaped marker reading "never forget."





#### Fiscal Year Ends June 30



Thank you for your generous support of Country Club Christian Church and its ministries. The church's fiscal year ends June 30 and we will be closing the financial books for this year very soon. Please take a moment this week to review your financial records and ensure that your pledge to the church for the 2011-2012 year is up to date. The budgeting process for the 2012-2013 year is underway, but we cannot adequately plan for the coming year without the completed pledges of all households

for the current year. If you have questions about your pledge, please contact Rob Gilkerson at robg@cccckc.org or Rachel Clement at rachelc@cccckc.org, or by phone at 816-333-4917.

If you have not yet turned in your Commitment Card for the Strengthen our Foundation Stewardship Campaign, please drop it in the offering tray on Sunday, or bring it to the church office at your convenience. Beginning this week, follow-up calls will be made to households which have not yet turned in pledge cards. Thank you for your generous support of Country Club Christian Church.

#### **Electronic Giving Program**

Contributions can be debited automatically from your checking or savings account. Our new electronic giving program offers convenience for you and much-needed donation consistency for our congregation. An authorization form is available from the church office or online at cccckc.org/give.html.

#### **Vacation Bible School Is Coming!**

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). Registration forms for participants and volunteers are online at www.cccckc.org or on the second floor in the Children's Wing.

#### Want to HELP?

It takes a wide range of volunteers to help make Vacation Bible School a success for all the children! If you would be willing to share your time the week of July 23-27 between 9:00 a.m.-noon, we would be grateful to have you involved. You can help one day or all five. Let us know when you are available and we will put you to work! Catherinesc@cccckc.org or Karlah@cccckc.org

### Infant Dedication



Luke Christopher Howard with his parents Brook and Chris Howard and brothers, Porter and Reed

### Festival Sunday Coming Aug. 19

Save the date for Festival Sunday, the beginning of a new year of spiritual growth opportunities for children, youth and adults. Dr. R. Glen Miles will preach the sermon "Where Hope Is Alive," we will gather for lunch on the front lawn from 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and children and youth will advance to the next Sunday School grade level.

## passages from the senior minister



# Summer Reading

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



Summer means vacations, lots of ice tea, time at the neighborhood pool and the chance to read more than usual. Here are a few of the books on my reading list for the next three months.

Disciples and the Bible, M Eugene Boring. This will be a great way to refresh my knowledge of our denomination while reviewing our methodology for interpreting the Bible. This book will help me prepare for a class I am teaching this fall here at the church, "Taking The Bible Seriously, Not Literally: A Course on How to Interpret the

Bible."

Banned Questions About the Bible, Christian Piatt, editor. Piatt has gathered some terrific preachers and thinkers to answer a collection of 50 questions about the Bible. The editor believes "that any faith worth claiming should stand up to rigorous examination and should also be open to change over time." I agree!

You Lost Me: Why Young Christians are Leaving the Church and Rethinking Faith, David Kinnaman. The data and the research are in: young adults are leaving the Church in America in record numbers. I'm preaching a sermon series this fall titled, "Losing My Religion: Finding God." I'm hopeful that this book will provide insights on this very important topic.

Taking the Leap: Freeing Ourselves from Old Habits and Fears, Pema Chodron. Chodrun, an American Buddhist nun, is one of my favorite writers.

The Beauty of The Word: The Challenge and Wonder of Preaching, James C. Howell. The most enjoyable aspect of my work as a pastor is the opportunity to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ week in and week out. The most challenging aspect of my work as a pastor is the opportunity to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ week in and week out! I've read about twenty pages of this book and I am already blessed by the author's work.

I've always loved Madeleine L'Engle's writing but I realized this week that I've not yet read two of her novels, *Many Waters* and *An Acceptable Time*. These novels are directed at younger readers but the themes and theologies underlying the story will inspire readers of all ages.

Grace and peace to you,

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#### New Sermon Series; Heaven on Earth

Dr. Glen Miles will begin a summer sermon series entitled "Finding Heaven on Earth" on July 15. It will be based on Ephesians 1-3.
When have you found heaven on earth? Email Glen or visit our Facebook page to share your stories.

# Worship with us!

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

#### June 24

Sustaining Presence Rev. Steve Mason preaching *Philippians 4.8-14* 

#### July 1

Enjoyment Rev. Carla Aday preaching Psalm 16

#### **July 8**

While They Were Eating Rev. Carla Aday preaching Exodus 16: 10-20

# Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

#### Virginia Reed Food Drive on July 15

On Sun., July 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."

#### **Haiti Mission Trip**

If you are interested in going on the mission trip to Haiti Nov. 1-7, contact Julia Walker, trip coordinator, at juya213@yahoo.com, for more information. A \$100 deposit will hold your spot for the trip. Dr. Glen Miles is the staff leader.

#### **Honor Loved Ones With Radio Broadcast** Sponsorship

Each Sunday you can hear a broadcast of the previous week's sermon at 8:30 a.m. on 1660 AM. Now, you can honor a loved one by dedicating sponsorship of a broadcast to her or him. The cost of the broadcast is \$200 per week. You may either underwrite the entire cost or partially as you are able. Contact Rob Gilkerson at 816-333-4917 or robg@cccckc.org for more information.

#### 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.

#### One-ders Retreat

May 18 and 19, the One-ders class participated in a retreat at Tall Oaks camp. The group focused on the theme of "Speaking Truth in Love" in our group time, while also worshipping, doing yoga and riding horses. The group of ten folks shared laughter, yummy meals, thoughtfelt conversations and

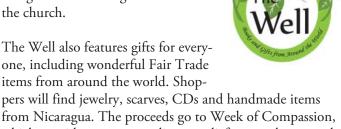


even made s'mores. If you are a single person who would like to learn more about this group, contact Rev. Carla Aday at carlaa@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917.

#### 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.



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.com<sup>\*</sup> 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 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.

### a message from staff



# Nobody Gets to Watch the Parade

by Lauren Weinhold, Director of Church Growth



Bob Goff is the founder and Chief Executive Officer of Restore International, a non-profit organization which was established to address the atrocities and injustices committed against children. Besides that role, though, he is viewed as a visionary in his immediate family and subdivision. On New Year's Day several years ago when his children were lamenting how bored they were, Bob encouraged them to think of something creative to do. His children suggested that they have a parade and invite their neighbors to watch. Bob challenged them to take the idea one step further...They

instituted a rule that "nobody gets to watch the parade." The neighbors would only be invited to participate, not watch. There would be a parade that stretched throughout the subdivision without so much as one casual observer.

What started out as a simple idea has blossomed over a decade later in to an annual event in the neighborhood. Hundreds of neighbors participate in the parade every year. Folks who have moved away come back to the cul-de-sac for the festivities. Every year, a parade queen is crowned and one year the mailman was even named the parade's Grand Marshall, throwing shredded envelopes as confetti. But not one person watches the parade from their sidewalk. The Goff family has turned a boring day into one that people now plan their vacations around.

What would it look like if we all participated in the "parade" of church and gave up our good view from the sidewalk? What if we each found a way to be an active participant in the life of the church, whether that's as a greeter, a council member, a knitter or a mission trip participant? What if we each, myself included, did something even simpler and invited someone to church on Festival Sunday, Aug. 19? On one of our most celebratory Sundays, I challenge you to share the excitement with a friend or family member by inviting them to join you for worship, a hamburger and more than a little fun. Give up your seat on the sidewalk and join in the fun. After all, nobody gets to watch the parade!

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### Celebration of Service Week Culminates in Ice Cream Social

Sun., June 24, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. This year the church is observing "Celebration of Service Week" from June 18-24. During this week, we are thanking the servants and leaders of the church's various council or ministry areas. At the conclusion of the week, on Sun., June 24, the church will join together in celebrating our church members' service to God and neighbor during the annual Ice Cream Social from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. This event will feature complimentary hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken sandwiches, Foos' custard and toppings, and the ever-popular balloon artist. As we celebrate together the great ministry that we share, we will pause to honor our outgoing chairpersons of the Elders and Congregational Board and welcome our incoming Chair of the Congregational Board and Chair of Elders.

### **Last Chance for Community Camp Kansas City**

Wed., June 27, 6:00 p.m.

Community Camp Kansas City concludes on Wed., June 13 on the east lawn. Families with children of all ages are invited to join in the fellowship and fun. Dinner will be served from 6:00-6:30 p.m. followed by activities for children,

youth, and adults. This week features a petting zoo. Suggested donation is \$3 for kids and \$4 for adults. This time of intergenerational fellowship is inspired by the annual Community Camp in Estes Park, but closer to home!





Above, Porter Howard and Trey Pendleton enjoy balloon creations. Below. Paige

Wildman samples a treat from the ice cream truck. Left, Howard Petrie and David Hunter cook.



# Upcoming Youth Events

**CYF Mission Trip** 

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

#### **Youth Group**

**July 1 – Salvation Army Children's Shelter.** Meet at the church by 6:00 p.m. to get a ride to play games and bring snacks to kids at the children shelter.

**July 12 and 19 – Thursday Evening Harvesters.** Contact Justin at justinz@cccckc.org by the Wednesday before to make sure there is room.

Sundays, July 8, 22, 29 – ReStart. We will go to ReStart, a ministry that serves the homeless population in Kansas City. Meet at the church at 4:00 p.m. to get a ride to help this ministry. RSVP to Justin Zeigler at justinz@cccckc.org.

Wednesdays, July 11 and 25 – Movie Nights. Be on the look out for more information as we go to the movies!

### 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.ccckc.org).

#### reflections

### For All You Saints

by Steve Mason, Pastoral Resident



When I first started my Transition into Ministry program over two years ago, I was searching for a congregation to serve where worship was thoughtful and moving; the congregation knew, loved and served their neighbors. Truly, the Holy Spirit MUST be a part of the search process because I never figured I would serve a church named Country Club. But now, after two years of faithful working alongside this congregation, my residency has come to an end and I am looking to where God is calling me next.

As these two years finish, it seems an appropriate occasion for joyful reflection. We as a congregation have done much, but I want to list some thanks to those whom I have had the privelege of serving with. To Suzy, Betsy, Carol, David, Rick, Karen, and all the active One-ders—your deep sense of camaraderie and care for one another is commendable. To Jillian, Kathy, Erin, Justin, Kate, Jonathan and all CAYA—it is hard to start something new and harder to continue, but it is a good struggle and the church couldn't ask for a better group to continue this work. To the college hospitality team of Pat, Greg and John, thank you for your thankless work that makes more of a difference than you'll ever know. To Jere, Greg, Katie, Pat, Carolyn and especially Mary, any minister would be grateful for such an insightful and compassionate group for a pastoral support group. For my beloved DBS group and all those who have journeyed with me through the Bible, through book studies or through New Orleans—I thank you for your trust, for sharing your gifts and trying something new. Finally, to this great staff—Fish, Ron, Chuck, Diana, Mary Margaret, Lisa, Karla, Heather, Sally, Lara, Rob, Lauren, Brian, Laine, David, Catherine, Justin and Chuck—and especially to Glen and Carla, thank you all for making me feel welcome, literally from day one. It has been such a joy to share in the labors of this thing we call church. You have spoiled me rotten and every other group of colleagues will pale in comparison—just don't tell them that.

There are many more people, classes and small groups to thank and so I dare you to share your gratitude to someone who uses their holy gifts and has touched your life. For the many ways that this entire congregation has impacted me personally and shaped me professionally, I thank you all and I pray that my ministry may in some way have enriched your journey of faith.

Peace and blessings until we meet again.





# Children and Families

# Fountains of Faith Sunday School Holy Moly

We are about to complete our unit on the Lord's Prayer on the last Sunday in June. Beginning in July we will be exploring Old Testament characters through a series called Holy Moly. This "Bible brought to life" series will help the children become familiar with key stories which connect to our faith foundations. Make plans to come and see what this is all about during Sunday School beginning July 1!

#### **Summer Outreach**

Sat., July 14, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Don't miss out! Join us in helping feed those in need through volunteering at Harvesters this summer. Kids ages 6 through 5th grade are welcome. Spots are limited, so RSVP to Karla Herrington at karlah@cccckc.org.

Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage



Return Service Requested

#### PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. R. Glen Miles Senior Minister

Rev. Carla Aday Senior Associate Minister

Rev. David Diebold Minister of Music

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

Rev. Chuck Murphy Minister of Congregational Care

Mr. Justin Zeigler Minister to Youth

Mr. Rob Gilkerson **Business Administrator**  Ms. Karla Herrington Director of Children's Ministries

Rev. Steve Mason Pastoral Resident

Mr. Brian Mathias Associate Organist

Ms. Lisa McCleish Director of Early Childhood Programs

Ms. Laine Riley

Associate Director of Music

Ms. Lara Schopp

**Director of Communications** 

Ms. Lauren Weinhold Director of Church Growth

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# Our Church Family

### **Sympathy**

JEAN SCHEIBEL CAMPBELL passed away June 9. She is survived by four daughters, Nancy Dorsey, Carol Carter, Sue Bailey, and Barbara Liberman. Services will be private.

#### **Memorials**

Bonnie Veskerna Michelle Bay Eric L. Hansen Douglas Cutler & Martha McNaul Virginia Cox Marilyn T. Shutz