



DISCIPLES
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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,
dedicated to
spiritual growth
through
worship, study
and service.*

“The God They Never Told Me About”

Hear Joan Chittister on Saturday, November 7, 9:00 a.m.

You will have a chance to hear this dynamic speaker and best selling author on Sat., Nov. 7 at



Joan Chittister

9:00 a.m. at Country Club Christian Church. Her topic “The God They Never Told Me About: A Convergence of Opposites” will engage us in a reflection of how faith shapes our daily lives.

Sister Joan does not mince words when it comes to the naked truth of a spirituality that changes hearts. An internationally renowned speaker on topics of spirituality, peace, and justice, her 2009 speaking tour includes the Parliament of World

Religions in Australia and the Science and Spirituality Conference in Italy. One of Christianity’s key visionary voices, Chittister has authored over 40 books and will release four more this fall. She founded and directs Benetvision, a resource for contemporary spirituality.

Sister Joan will speak at 9:00 a.m., followed by questions, a reception and book signing.

Come and bring a friend. The event, co-sponsored by Country Club Christian Church and Topics to Go, is free and open to the public. Books will be available for purchase.

“Gratitude for Life”

Tammeus and Cukierkorn to Speak at Thanksgiving Dinner November 19

The featured speakers at Country Club Christian Church’s annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Nov. 19 will be Bill

Tammeus and Rabbi Jacques Cukierkorn, authors of *They Were Just People: Stories of Rescue in Poland During the Holocaust*. Their topic is “Gratitude for Life.” Using stories from their new book, they will talk about the gratitude survivors felt once the war ended and they knew they had made it.



Tammeus is a former nationally syndicated columnist for *The Kansas City Star*, and Rabbi

Cukierkorn, descended from Polish rabbis, is the spiritual leader of the New Reform Temple in Kansas City, MO. The book tells the stories of Polish Holocaust survivors and their rescuers. The authors traveled extensively in the United States and Poland to interview some of the few remaining participants before their generation is gone.

We will gather at 6:30 p.m. in the Social Hall on Thur., Nov. 19 for a traditional dinner of turkey, dressing and all the trimmings followed by the speakers. Cost is \$14. Make your reservations by Sun., Nov. 15 with Mary Margaret at 816-333-4917 or on Nov. 1 and 8 in the parlor.



Coming Soon!

Many Opportunities to Celebrate this Advent Season

Advent Sermon Series: like a child

Advent invites us to bring a child-like spirit as we reconnect with the joy, peace and hope of the season.
Nov. 29 and Dec. 6, 13, 20

Breakfast with Santa – Dec. 5

Featuring a pancake breakfast, professional photo of your child with Santa, crafts and FUN!
10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Social Hall.

Christmas at Country Club – Dec. 6

Join us for our annual service kicking off the holiday season. Christmas at Country Club is a musical celebration of the Advent season. 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary.

Chancel Choir Cantata – Dec. 13

The Chancel Choir will be joined by orchestra and soloists to present Bach's magnificent Christmas work *Cantata No. 191: Gloria in excelsis Deo*. 11:00 a.m. service, Sanctuary.

Country Club Singers Music of the Season Concert – Dec. 20

Join us for a program of Christmas music from around the world. 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary.

Christmas Music for Organ and Brass – Dec. 21

David Diebold and the Kansas City Brass present a traditional concert featuring seasonal favorites at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Christmas Eve Worship Services

This holy evening begins with worship for children and families, followed by two traditional candlelight services.
Thur., Dec. 24
5:30 p.m. – Children and families service
8:00 and 11:00 p.m. – Candlelight services

Country Club Christian Church Income and Expense Report For the Quarter Ended September 30, 2009

Although the results for July through September are favorable, most of this is the result of restrained spending by Outreach and other programs. In order to provide an appropriate level of funding for these programs, we need to substantially increase the income from pledges and other income.

	Actual	Budget	Variance
Income			
Income from Pledges	\$ 312,870	\$ 341,779	\$ (28,909)
Other Income	103,796	101,544	2,252
Total Income	<u>\$ 416,666</u>	<u>\$ 443,323</u>	<u>\$ (26,657)</u>
Expense			
Administration	\$ 290,950	\$ 295,572	\$ 4,622
Building	83,002	84,112	1,110
Outreach and Other Programs	35,641	59,918	24,277
Total Expense	<u>\$ 409,593</u>	<u>\$ 439,602</u>	<u>\$ 30,009</u>
Net Income(Expense)	\$ 7,073	\$ 3,721	\$ 3,352



Giving with Joy

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



Way back in 1978, when I was a college summer intern at the First Christian Church of San Francisco, all of us on staff attended a Wednesday night worship service at the Greater Saint Beulah Church of God in Christ, a congregation that met just down the street from First Christian. The service was a wonderful experience.

After a few prayers and some announcements, it came time to take up the offering. As the deacons gathered at the front to get ready to receive the gifts, the choir began a rock-n-roll-like anthem, one that had the entire congregation up and singing within a few measures. As the singing continued, the pastor came to the microphone, quieted the choir and invited everyone to come to the front with their tithes and offerings.

I was really glad that I had a few one dollar bills in my pocket as we made our way to the front. The music continued to crescendo as the entire congregation filed past the deacons who were holding the offering plates near the chancel. As soon as everyone had returned to their seats, the choir director moved us on to the next hymn. However, in the middle of that song, one of the deacons went to the microphone. The choir softened again and hummed quietly in the background as the deacon told us that they had not collected enough. The choir rose in joyful noise and the entire congregation again got up and filed its way to the front. I was REALLY glad that I had a few more dollars in my wallet!

What caught my attention in that moment was the joy that the congregation experienced with the opportunity to give. There were no speeches being offered, no passionate pleas for funds. Just the matter of fact report that they were short for the evening's needs and it was time to dig a little deeper. This style of giving and worship may not fit the culture at Country Club Christian Church but I wonder what might happen if we could discover the same joy of giving that was so evident on that night?

In the long run, it's really not about money. It is about the opportunity to joyfully respond to God's blessings.

So, if you see my toe tapping during the offertory anthem this Sunday you'll know that I am enjoying our marvelous choir while remembering what it means to give with gladness.

Grace and peace to you.

Visitor Information Seminar

Are you interested in joining the Country Club Christian Church family? Whether you're ready to join the church or simply want to learn more about the many ministries here, we invite you to attend the next **Visitor Information Seminar on Sat., Nov. 21, 8:45 a.m.-noon**. Learn about the multitude of ways you can be strengthened on your faith journey. Meet the ministers, visit with some of the church's lay leaders and enjoy a light breakfast and lunch. Please contact Lauren Weinhold at laurenw@cccckc.org for more information to RSVP for the event.

Worship with us!

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

Nov. 1

Almost Heaven

Mark 12: 28-34

Dr. R. Glen Miles preaching

Nov. 8

An Extravagant Gift, An

Extraordinary Faith

Mark 12: 38-44

Dr. R. Glen Miles preaching

Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

Fill Stockings for Micah Ministry

It's time once again to make Christmas stockings for the guests of Micah Ministry. Our goal is to distribute over 450 Christmas stockings! You, your family, Sunday school class or small group can purchase pairs of tube socks from the church at a cost of 70 cents per pair. Please purchase your own supplies to fill the stockings. To sign up your group and purchase socks, contact Chris Trout at christ@cccckc.org.



Each stocking should be filled with items that can be used by either men or women:

- ♦ the other sock rolled up and placed in the toe,
- ♦ small sized toiletries such as shower soap, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, skin lotion, lip balm,
- ♦ washcloth,
- ♦ hard candy.

Simply tie the tops of the filled stockings with a ribbon and bring them to church no later than Sun., Dec. 20. Thank you for making Christmas a little brighter for our friends at Independence Boulevard Christian Church! Please contact Chris Trout, christ@cccckc.org, or Lauren Weinhold, laurenw@cccckc.org, with questions.

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., Nov. 20 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at a location to be announced. Parents are asked to contribute \$5 per child for childcare (\$10 maximum per family). Childcare will be at the church beginning at 5:30 p.m. RSVP to Mary Margaret at marymargareth@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917.

Pathways to Learning



How the Bible Came to Be

Nov. 1 – Conclusion of the series *How the Modern Bible Came to Be*, Dr. David May, Central Baptist Theological Seminary.

Service of Prayer for Healing and Wholeness

Tues., Nov. 3 at 7:30 p.m.

Join us for a peaceful time of song, scripture and prayer at 7:30 p.m. on Tues., Nov. 3 in Combs Chapel. This service offers an opportunity for church members and friends of our church to share prayerful concerns as well as blessings.

Virginia Reed Food Drive on November 15

On Sun., Nov. 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."

Second Sunday Where parents of children ages 10 and under nourish mind, body and soul.

November – No meeting.

December 13 – Family caroling party, 3:30-6:00 p.m.

Watch for details.

Honor Your 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 KXTR, 1660 AM. Now, you can honor a loved one by dedicating sponsorship of this broadcast to him or her. The sponsorship minimum is \$180. Simply contact Sandy Eisenman at sandy@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917 for more information.



Enough

by Karla Herrington, Director of Children's Ministries



It was a cold winter day in December several years ago when we pulled off the I-70 exit to my hometown of Higginsville. There at the top of the exit ramp was an old man standing with his sign asking for money. I rolled down my window and handed him some money. After all, I had just checked my billfold to see if I had cash for McDonald's for our lunch and I knew I had enough.

Before I had time to roll the window up, my 3-year-old said, "What did you just give him?" I explained we were getting ready to have lunch and that maybe he needed some money for his own lunch, so I shared with him. Her reply was, "It's so cold out, why isn't he sitting in his car?"

That's when I knew that explaining to a 3-year-old about a possibly homeless person would be a challenge. Not to mention, I didn't know this man's situation; whether or not the money would be used for lunch. I remember just keeping it simple, that we had enough money that day and shared. These days I try not to analyze every situation about "to give or not to give." I just know that usually my family has enough and it feels right to share.

This month we have been talking at Club Kids about what it looks like to have enough. For each family, I'm sure this definition is different and opens up an opportunity for dialogue. When talking about "enough" as in food, I'm sure most of us rarely miss a meal and can easily find an after-school snack.

In planning activities for the children and families at Country Club Christian Church this year, we are focusing on hunger. In November, families will be able to participate in "Fill the Ark," raising money for Heifer International. Heifer International provides dozens of different species of animals—from ducks to camels to llamas and geese—to people around the world. Please be sure to look for these materials in the children's wing and help us express God's grace by giving to others.

From what we get, we can make a living; what we give, however, makes a life.
Arthur Ashe

Karla

Electronic Communications 101

The Country Club Christian Church Communications Council invites you to Electronic Communication 101: Facebook, Twitter and More! Learn how to get the most out of social media, to more effectively use the church's web site, and have your basic questions answered.

Social networking web sites are everywhere, and lots of our communication these days takes place virtually, via email and web sites. To keep up with current trends (and as part of the church's efforts to become better stewards of the environment) we have increased the amount and type of electronic communication to our members, through email, the church's web site and on social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter.

Are you interested in learning more about how to use these tools, both to better communicate with the church and in your personal life? Please join us for this basic class in Facebook, Twitter and more!

The class is on Sat., Nov. 14 from 10:00-11:30 a.m. at the River City Solutions Learning Lab, 116 W. 3rd Street in the River Market area. The lab is equipped with computers with large screens and internet access so participants may have a hands-on experience during the tutorial.

Please RSVP by Wed., Nov. 11, at 5:00 p.m. to Lara Schopp, Director of Communications, at laras@cccckc.org or at 816-333-4917.

Youth Ministries Selling Holiday Poinsettias

Country Club Christian Church youth are taking orders for Christmas poinsettias on Nov. 1 and 8 in the Parlor. Full payment must be received with all orders. Plants will be available for pick up from 9:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. on Sat., Dec. 5 and Sun., Dec. 6 at the church. The poinsettias cost \$12.75 for a 6-inch plant, \$18.75 for an 8-inch plant, and \$24.75 for a 10-inch plant. Proceeds benefit youth ministry programs and missions.



Breakaway for All Youth in CYF on November 13

CYF youth (grades 9-12) are invited to Breakaway, a fun night of fellowship and festivities, on Fri., Nov. 13 at 8:00 p.m. We will meet in Olathe with other youth from around Kansas City for worship, followed by our choice of laser tag, bowling, skating, basketball, and volleyball ALL NIGHT LONG! We will come back to the church for breakfast, then head home. Sign up as soon as possible! There's still time to turn in forms to get the early registration for \$30. At the door the cost is \$45. Scholarships are available. Contact Brandon Winstead at brandonw@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917.

Precautions Implemented this Flu Season

With the convergence this year of the 2009 H1N1 flu and seasonal influenza, it is more important than ever for everyone to be prepared to help fight flu. Country Club Christian Church is taking proactive steps to prevent the potential spread of any contagious disease, including H1N1.

The church has implemented the following policies.

- ◆ Ample bottles and dispensers of hand sanitizer have been placed throughout the main building and the chapel, including restrooms.
- ◆ Communion bread is being cubed prior to the 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. services so people do not have to touch more of the bread than the piece they are picking up.
- ◆ The maintenance staff is being extra vigilant in sanitizing surfaces and handrails.
- ◆ Boxes of tissues are available throughout the building.

If you're uncomfortable shaking hands because of the potential for passing of the virus, especially following the worship service, don't be concerned that you will offend the minister at the door. You may always say hello without extending your hand.

Remember the basics of flu prevention and practice these habits throughout the day and become a prevention advocate by encouraging others to adopt these same practices. Wash your hands, cover your mouth and avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.

Pastors' Class Information Session

Sun., Nov. 15 – 7:00-8:00 p.m.

All 6th grade youth and their parents are invited to an information session Sun., Nov. 15 from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the Youth Center (Rm. 205). The Pastors' Class will meet on Wednesday evenings beginning Jan. 6, 2010, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Baptisms are scheduled for Palm Sunday (March 28). We will celebrate their first communion as church members in the Maundy Thursday worship service on Apr. 1 at 7:00 p.m.

CYF Sunday School

Over the coming eight weeks, CYF youth (grades 9-12) will continue to study themes related to youth and faith development as expressed in various biblical stories. The title of the series is "Kids in the Bible: Hearing the Stories of God's Youth." The study will begin with the narrative of Ishmael in Genesis and conclude with the story of the youthful Jesus in the Temple.

The class just completed a study of the the Book of Esther, during which the youth discovered that God often works in mysterious ways to help keep together communities of faith—even when they are faced with numerous obstacles and difficulties. They also discussed how the book of Esther teaches us of the dangers of using our power and privilege to justify the ideals, viewpoints, or actions of our own community without taking the time to see how they might damage or harm the well-being of others.

Brandon Winstead, Director of High School Ministries, will lead the continuing exploration of what it means to be God's agents of freedom, healing, love, and justice in our schools, communities, and nation.



A Spiritual Team

by Rev. Carla Aday, Senior Associate Minister



I've been standing on the sidelines for 10 years. Shouting. Encouraging. Wincing. Handwringing. Hoping. When he was 4, I just hoped that he would run in the proper direction, not score for the other team and run hard enough to burn off some energy. Once he caught on to the game I began to worry that he'd get hurt. When a player was on the ground, I'd begin to pray – that he would get up, that nothing was broken. If it was my kid, I'd pray that I wouldn't embarrass him by running out on the field before the coach motioned me over. When it was another

mom's kid, I'd pray for that mom. Even when it was a kid wearing the opposition's uniform, I'd feel the tears coming to my eyes, until he limped off the field to our hoorays and applause.

This past Saturday I realized I was no longer watching little kids play. Rather I was seeing young men, most of who could wallop me in arm wrestling or out run me in a foot race, play a genuine team sport. They passed the ball and talked to one another. A goal was always attributed to a team effort not one hotshot kid. A magnetic force seemed to unfold on the field. We parents on the sidelines pulled not only for our kid but for the whole team.

The joy I experience as a soccer mom is echoed in my role as pastor. I have watched from the sidelines as a toddler runs down for the children's sermon, then runs off to college and later returns to the chancel steps to say "I do." I have cheered as someone afraid to sleep on the floor fell in love with mission trips because of the exhilaration that comes with serving the poor. I have encouraged a Bible study novice who later became a Bible study teacher! Christianity is a learned sport. It takes years to cultivate a mature faith. In fact, it takes more than one lifetime.

And when we begin to grow strong spiritual muscles, we begin functioning as a team. We ache when another hurts. We rejoice when another celebrates. We no longer seek simply our own personal success but we seek the health of the body of Christ. A mysterious synergy carries us to new spiritual heights.

When folks tell me "I can be a Christian alone. I don't need the church," it sounds as logical to me as saying "I can grow up without parents cheering on the sidelines" or "I can play soccer alone." Sure, you could, but what would be meaningful about that?

Carla

Children and Families

1st & 2nd Grade Mystery Trip

Saturday, Nov. 7

1st and 2nd graders are invited to join us for our fall mystery trip. We will gather at 10:45 a.m. at church, and then depart to our "mystery" location, returning to church by 2:00 p.m. Cost is \$10 per child and children will need to bring a sack lunch. Space is limited so sign up early! Please RSVP to Karla Herrington, karlah@cccck.org.

Fountains of Faith Rotation

Witness to God's Presence: Plagues and Passover

During this rotation for 1st-5th graders, we will focus on the Hebrew people's time in Egypt, the plagues, the origins of the Passover and their Exodus from Egypt through cooking, art, and storytelling. Join us Sunday mornings from 9:55-10:55 a.m.

Fill the Ark

Support Heifer International

In November, families can "Fill the Ark" in support of Heifer International. Families will have the opportunity to fill their own "ark" with daily offerings while gaining a deeper understanding and appreciation of the ways Heifer International helps people, animals, and plants live in harmony as God's good creation. Pick up your materials on the table in the children's education wing on the second floor.

Advent in Advance

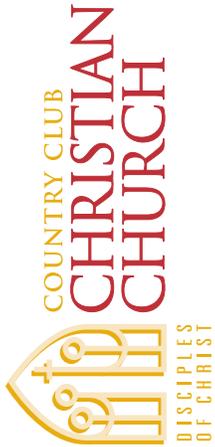
Sun., Nov. 22, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Kids and parents prepare for the Advent season by creating an Advent worship center, adding the three Wise Ones to their crèche, and making gifts for homebound members. A light lunch will be served. Cost is \$15 per family for lunch and supplies.

Family Caroling Party

Save the date – Sun., Dec. 13 3:30-6:00 p.m. Watch for more information.

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Rev. Carla Aday
Senior Associate Minister

Rev. David Diebold
Minister of Music

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

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Pumpkin Pies for Micah Ministry

We are again asking church members to bake pumpkin pies for the Micah Ministry Thanksgiving Dinner on Nov. 23 at Independence Boulevard Christian Church. Last year more than 500 people were served and the pies were a great part of the celebration! Sign up in the Parlor on Nov. 1 and Nov. 8 if you'd like to lend your culinary talents to this great cause. Pies need to be dropped off at the church kitchen on Nov. 22. We need approximately 125 pies as we will be serving 600 people.

Our Church Family

Sympathy

BOB FITZPATRICK passed away Oct. 1. He is survived by his wife, Diane. Services were Oct. 5.

ROBERT W. "BEAR" BECK passed away Oct. 15. He is the father of Kevin Beck. Services were Oct. 19 in the Sanctuary, Dr. Miles officiating.

HELEN M. QUINN, grandmother of Kelley Quinn passed away Oct. 20. Services were Oct. 24 in Belton, MO.

JOHN S. FIELDS passed away Oct. 22. He is survived by a daughter, Mary Alice Boten. Services were Oct. 24 in the Sanctuary, Rev. Carla Aday officiating.

MORGAN WILLIAMS passed away Oct. 25. He is survived by a sister, Joy Lynn Cox, and a brother, Hank Williams. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Memorials

NORMA "BUNNY"
CORBIN

Pat Conway
Virginia Reed

ROBERT FITZPATRICK

John & Erma Hess

HELEN LITTLE

John & Erma Hess

Vicky Cross

Ron Cross

Virginia Reed

JOHN S. FIELDS

Max & Sue Deweese

Dorothy Bayless

Bonnie Veskerna

Outreach Fund

NORMA "BUNNY"

CORBIN

Hank & Joan Riffe