



DISCIPLES  
OF CHRIST

VOLUME 84 · NUMBER 2

COUNTRY CLUB

# CHRISTIAN

Strength for the Journey. Grace for the Soul.

## INSIDE

Paying Attention  
to God  
by Glen Miles  
≈≈≈  
page 3

Stained Glass  
Treasure  
by Marilyn Wimer  
≈≈≈  
page 5

The Routine  
Leads to Hope  
by Catherine  
Stark-Corn  
≈≈≈  
page 7

*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.*

## Your Voice in the Vision Sacred Conversations Begin in February

What's your vision for Country Club Christian Church? During Lent, you have a unique opportunity to share your voice in the vision for the future of Country Club Christian Church through Sacred Conversations. For information on how, where, when, and why, keep reading, then stop by the Parlor to sign up for a Sacred Conversation group which fits your schedule.

*Q: What are Sacred Conversations, and how does this relate to the church's visioning process?*

For nearly two years, the Visioning Team, a group including members of the congregation and Dr. R. Glen Miles, has been working to create a collaborative process that allows all members of the congregation to share their voices in the vision for the church's future. This process is called Sacred Conversations. Sacred Conversations are small groups of individuals who come together, led by a trained facilitator, to discuss who God calls us to be as a church, and what it means to be church.

*Q: How do Sacred Conversations work?*

Share your voice in the church's vision by simply  
*continued on page 6*

## Spiritual Life Retreat: Staying Alive Spiritually

Feb. 19-20 at Tall Oaks

In the midst of all the roles we play and the responsibilities we carry, how do we make room for God? Are you thriving spiritually – or merely surviving?

Rev. Holly Whitcomb will lead an all-church spiritual life retreat on Feb. 19-20 at Tall Oaks Conference Center on the theme "Staying Alive Spiritually."



Learn how you can deepen your relationship with God as you make your life more purposeful and more peaceful. Sign up now for this enriching opportunity.

Cost is \$65 per person triple occupancy, \$75 double occupancy, and \$40 for those who do not plan to spend the night. Prices include three meals. Sign up at [marymargareth@cccckc.org](mailto:marymargareth@cccckc.org) or by calling the church office at 816-333-4917.

## State of the Church Dinner

Join Dr. Glen Miles as we assess where we have been as a congregation and prepare for our journey into the future. Thur., Jan. 28, 6:30 p.m., Social Hall. Mark your calendar to hear Dr. Miles' report, *An Emerging Vision*. Tickets are \$12 per person and may be purchased in the parlor on Sunday mornings.



# 90th Anniversary Celebration Kicks off with Dinner and Auction

In 2010, Country Club Christian Church is celebrating 90 years of spiritual growth, faithful fellowship and cultivating community through worship, study and service. In commemoration of our 90-year journey, and in preparation for our next 90 years, we invite you to join in one or more of the opportunities to celebrate!

## Celebration Dinner and Auction

The celebration begins with a dinner and auction on Sat., Mar. 6 at the beautiful Mildale Farm in Edgerton, Kansas. Join us as we reflect on the church's faithful foundation and imagine a future of growing in grace. Tickets are \$125 per person and must be purchased in advance. Tickets can be purchased Sundays in the parlor. No tickets will be available at the door.

In addition to individual tickets, opportunities are available to participate as a benefactor at levels from \$500 to \$10,000. Visit [www.cccckc.org/stay](http://www.cccckc.org/stay) informed for a list of auction items and more information.

## Attention Travel Buffs!

The auction committee for the 90th Anniversary dinner needs your assistance! We have several FANTASTIC live auction items but we need one more thing to complete a package. If anyone has airline tickets, points that can be used for airline tickets, or knows anyone that can help acquire airline tickets we want to speak with



you. Please contact Michelle Schlatter at [michelle1@me.com](mailto:michelle1@me.com) or 913-568-6252 if you can help with this need.

## Festival Sunday

**Sun., Aug. 22**

This year on Festival Sunday, as we kick off the church's program year with fun, fellowship and festivity, we will also celebrate 90 years of ministry. Dr. R. Glen Miles begins a sermon series entitled *Founded in Faith, Growing in Grace*, and other special celebration opportunities are planned.

## 90 Years of Grace at Work September 2010

Ninety years of service to the Kansas City community and outreach across the world will be honored this fall with a large-scale Grace at Work service project. Watch for more details!

## Other Opportunities to Celebrate

Watch the *Country Club Christian Newsletter*, the church's web site, and the Sunday bulletin insert for additional opportunities to celebrate this historic milestone.

## Marriage Celebration Sunday Sun., Feb. 14

Are you and your spouse one of the more than 5,000 couples who were married at Country Club Christian Church? Celebrate Valentine's Day with us as we recognize couples married in either the Sanctuary or Chapel or who have been married 50 years or more, regardless of where they were married!

- Bring a copy of your wedding photo to share in the Parlor that morning.
- Join us for special recognition during the 11:00 a.m. worship service in the Sanctuary.
- Have a complimentary photo taken in the place where you took your vows. Couples may gather for photos at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary or noon in the Chapel.
- Enjoy wedding cake in the Parlor with other couples married here.
- Win a special door prize! A prize drawing will be held for both engaged and married couples.

Have friends or family members who were married here? Be sure to invite them to celebrate with us on this special day.



# Paying Attention to God

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



Several years ago I met with a spiritual director. A spiritual director is a person who looks carefully into your soul. During my first visit, he asked about my life. I spent a great deal of time talking about my ministry and all of the things I was involved in at the church. I went on and on about the need for more time and my desire to get more accomplished. My description of my life could have been titled “Hurry Up!”

After 15 minutes or so, he stopped me and said, “That is enough.” I thought I was dazzling. I was sure that I would get an “A” for effort and

an “A” for achievement (the fact that I was looking for a grade tells you what was really going on in my life).

He said, “You are suffering from the problem of too much. Your spirit is overwhelmed. There is no room in your soul for God.”

I tried to argue but he stopped me. “No more. You talk too much. You must learn to be quiet, to make room for God in your life.”

You could say I suffered from what John Ortberg calls “hurry sickness.”

Hurry sickness is the great illusion that somehow hurrying through life will help us find more time. Ortberg says that hurry is “the great enemy of the spiritual life in our day. Hurry can destroy our souls. Hurry can keep us from living well.” Carl Jung said something similar. He wrote, “Hurry is not of the devil. Hurry is the devil.”

I believe that we know this in the depths of our souls. We know that we want to slow down and enjoy life more. We know that we want to live an uncluttered life, one that is slow enough to enjoy.

Slow down. Breathe deeply. Breathe in the spirit of God and be saved from the ruthlessness of hurry so that we might live the uncluttered and holy life that God invites us toward.

Grace and peace to you,

## Financial News

### Giving Reports

2009 contribution records will be sent via email by Jan. 31 to all those with email addresses on file. If you would like a paper copy, please call the church. All contributions received by Dec. 31 will be credited to 2009. Thank you for your generous support.

## Worship with us!

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

**Sermon Series  
“Finding the Presence after the  
Presents”**

Dr. R. Glen Miles preaching

Jan. 31

Part 3: Deep Calls to Deep  
*Psalm 42*

Feb. 7

Part 4: God Has Moved into the  
Neighborhood  
*Revelation 21: 1-5a*

# Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

## Soul Mates for Engaged and Newlyweds

If you are recently engaged or recently married, we invite you to participate in Soul Mates, a class designed specifically for you. Soul Mates will meet one Sunday a month during the Sunday School hour from January through December. There is no required text for this class, however resource books are available for those who are interested. Each class will be led by experienced facilitators and will focus on cultivating your relationship and discussing topics that are relevant to you. Class will begin in February. For more information or to reserve a spot, contact Lauren Weinhold at 816-333-4917.

## Couple Communication

Couple Communication is an award-winning educational program that teaches you and your partner practical communication skills. Develop confidence to communicate with your partner effectively, creating better resolutions to conflict and increasing satisfaction in your relationship. The class will meet Saturdays, Feb. 20 and 27, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Couples who were married at the church may take the course for free. Contact: Michelle Schlatter at [weddings@cccckc.org](mailto:weddings@cccckc.org) or call the church at 816-333-4917.

## Visitor Information Seminar on February 13

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., Feb. 13, 8:45-11:30 a.m. in the Solarium (Rm. 309). 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. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Lauren Weinhold at [laurenw@cccckc.org](mailto:laurenw@cccckc.org).

## Information Open House on January 31

You're invited to the next Information Open House on Sun., Jan. 31 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Stop by the Last Supper Sculpture room off the parlor for dessert and learn more about the exciting events that will be taking place in the coming months.

## Coming in February

This year during Lent, we invite you to join us on a spiritual journey by choosing a path of study or reflection which will help you better connect with the Spirit, your church, and the significance of the season. In recognition of the sacred nature of Lent, the church will focus all of its energy on worship, study and fellowship, forgoing all business-related meetings. The Lenten spiritual offerings include Sacred Conversations (see page 1).

## Bible Workbench

If traditional Bible Study is not for you, consider Bible Workbench. This creative and interactive approach brings a refreshing look at how real life and ancient scriptures intersect in surprising ways. Designed to enhance the spiritual journey through Lent, participants will reflect on the scripture that Dr. Miles will preach about that week during worship. A workbook provides thought-provoking questions, background information and excerpts from current literature that echo the themes. Workbook cost is \$25 but library copies are available. Choose a group that fits your schedule. Men's Group – Wednesday 7:30-9:00 a.m., Jeff Zimmerman; Thursday Morning Group – 9:30-11:00 a.m., Carla Aday; Sunday Morning Group – 8:45 -9:50 a.m., Anna Tolar; Tuesday Night Group – 7:00-8:30 p.m.; Sunday Night Group – 5:00-6:30 p.m.; Chancel Choir Group, Lynn Cockle; Adult Sunday School Classes – Several of the adult Sunday School classes will participate during their Sunday morning class time.

## Invitation to the New Testament

If you are interested in learning more about the Bible, this class is a great place to start. Based on the best of modern scholarship, this class offers eager learners a chance to ponder how the life of Jesus shapes and guides the personal journey of faith. This class is part of the Disciple Bible Study series. Each student will have a workbook to guide in weekly class preparation and each class will offer group discussion. Class facilitators are Clayton Hasser and Lauren Weinhold, both Disciple Bible Study veterans. Books cost \$10. Tuesday evenings, Feb. 23-Apr. 13, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Sign up by calling the church office 816-333-4917 or email [marymargareth@cccckc.org](mailto:marymargareth@cccckc.org).



## Stained Glass Treasure

by Marilyn Wimer, Director of Administrative Services



If you were asked to name the treasures that belong to our church, my guess is most of you would include the stained glass windows on your list. Their colors, designs and content surely place them among the most beautiful features of our building. Here are a few interesting details about the windows:

- They were designed in three different studios, including the Jacobi Company from St. Louis, the Willet Studios in Philadelphia and by Dr. Charles J. Connick from Boston.

- All the windows are made from colored glass

with painted details that were applied and fired before the pieces were placed together and leaded into their intricate designs.

- The lower windows contain references to the Old Testament; the larger upper windows to the New Testament.

The St. Cecelia window in the balcony is the only original window in the sanctuary; all the others were redesigned in the 1940s. When the sanctuary was constructed in 1924, the large windows on the north and south sides matched the ones found in the narthex. The colors were muted earth-tones pieced in an irregular pattern. When the congregation decided to redesign the windows, Dr. Connick, who was “considered the world’s greatest artisan on stained windows,” according to the *New York Times*, was commissioned. He was asked to incorporate scenes from Jesus’ life, parables, scripture passages and Christian symbols throughout his designs.

I’ve often wondered about the lengthy debate that must have taken place as Dr. Connick’s design ideas were considered. Knowing how much conversation is involved with issues far less significant, such as deciding event menus or the color to paint the walls, one can only imagine! “We must include the Good Samaritan, the Sermon on the Mount and the Nativity.” “We can’t leave out Moses or Peter or Ruth.” (All of those are portrayed in the windows, by the way.)

Ultimately, nearly 60 different Biblical stories and people were included. More than 60 years later, these wonderful works of art continue to inspire us, enriching every worship service and event held in the sanctuary.

## Screening of *Food, Inc.*

**Feb. 5 at 6:00 p.m.**

Youth Ministries and the Green Team are cosponsoring a screening of the movie *Food, Inc.* on Fri., Feb. 5, at 6:00 p.m. in the Youth Center (Rm. 205).



The focus of the film is the corporate food industry that controls the sourcing, processing, production and sale of food. Following the screening, Diana Endicott of Good Natured Family Farms will give a 10-minute talk about resources in the Kansas City area (such as farmers markets, supermarkets with local food) and answer questions.

Many who have viewed *Food, Inc.* have been motivated to seek out local and organic sources of food. Endicott is the founder and director of Good Natured Family Farms’ alliance. She farms with her husband, Gary, on a 400-acre organic and 400-acre transitional farm in southeast Kansas. She has organized a farmer alliance and created a strong partnership with Balls Food Stores, a Kansas City supermarket chain.

## Service of Prayer for Healing and Wholeness

**Tues., Feb. 2 at 7:30 p.m.**

Join us for a peaceful time of song, scripture and prayer at 7:30 p.m. on Tues., Feb. 2 in Combs Chapel. This service offers an opportunity for church members and friends of our church to share prayerful concerns as well as blessings.

## Yoga: Renew and Relax

Learn how to create balance in the body, developing both strength and flexibility through meditation. Certified yoga instructor and church member Susan Garner offers two classes each Monday in the Solarium (Rm. 309): a mixed level group at 9:00 a.m. and gentle yoga at 10:30 a.m. Classes are \$10 each and you may pay as you go.

## Your Voice in the Vision, *continued from page 1*

choosing a group which fits your schedule. A list of groups is included here, and you may sign up in the Parlor. The groups will meet weekly during Lent, as part of the church's spiritual journey to Easter. (In recognition of the sacred nature of the Lenten season, the church will focus all of its energy on worship, study and fellowship between Feb. 15 and April 2, forgoing all business-related meetings, giving members a break from council and committee meetings so you may instead participate in either this opportunity or other of the other Lenten spiritual offerings.)

Your Sacred Conversation group will begin meeting the week of Feb. 15 with your facilitators, who will open each week's discussion with a sacred reading of scripture. Your facilitator will then lead you through a series of evocative questions about spiritual vitality and discipleship. Each person in your group will be invited to share observations, experiences and thoughts.

*Q: What happens next?*

In your group's final session, your facilitator will share and confirm what has been learned through your group's discussions, and these findings will be shared with staff, the congregational board and the Visioning Team to shape the future of our church.

*Q: Why should I participate?*

Participating in Sacred Conversations gives you an opportunity to help shape the future of Country Club Christian Church for generations to come. But an equally important benefit of this process is an opportunity to participate in what others have found as a spiritually invigorating and personally fulfilling process.

Groups meet Feb. 15-April 2. Sign up in the Parlor on Sunday.

<b>Group</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Day and Time</b>	<b>Facilitator</b>
Moms' Group	See Catherine Stark-Corn for details.	See Stark-Corn for details.	Sally Murguía
New Members (those who have joined the church in the last three years)	Church	Mon., 6:30 p.m.	Barbara George and Lauren Weinhold
Sunday Night Group*	Church	Sun., 5:30-7:00 p.m.	TBA
10:00 a.m. Worship Service Attendees	Church	Sun., 5:00-6:30 p.m.	Scott Glasrud and Glen Miles
Wednesday Morning Bible Study	Church	See Chuck Rolen for details	Lee and Jarene Stanford, Chuck Rolen
South Johnson County*	9835 Sagamore Rd.	Wed., 7:00 p.m.	Randy and Cindy Irely
Johnson County*	TBA	TBA	Pat Martin
Senior Citizens Wisdom (for those 65 and older)	Church	Tues., 10:00 a.m.	Jeff Zimmerman and Glen Miles
Chancel Choir Group	Church	Seen Lynn Cockle for details	Lynn Cockle and David Diebold
YaWhose (young adults in 20s and 30s)	TBA	See Carla Aday for details.	Carla Aday
Wednesday Evening Group*	Church	Wed., 6:30-8:00 p.m.	Kathie Allison

\*These groups are open to anyone.



# The Routine Leads to Hope

by Catherine Stark-Corn, Minister to Children, Youth and Families



I am in one of those periods of my life where I am grateful to have a routine of “have tos” ...getting up in the morning, helping my boys get ready and out the door to school, walking the dog, getting groceries to put dinner on the table, and much more on a daily basis. There are times when daily life can seem so out of kilter that it is only the rhythm of the routine that provides reassurance. I am not sure 2010 is off to the fresh, do-it-better, chance-to-change beginning we may crave in a new year. Between the devastating headlines unfolding about the earthquake in Haiti, the continued conflicts around the world, the financial struggles of so many, and the sunless days of winter I find my mind settling too often on the negative, on the fear, on a sense of helplessness.

When I find myself in this place I am reminded of why involvement in a community of faith is so essential for me. Just as the daily routine of “have tos” keeps me moving forward, so too the practice of gathering for worship to share our sorrows, to offer a collective lament to God, to hear words of hope and renewal provide a sense of balance, a handhold in times of chaos. The people of God offer me comfort in the collective act of being together.

I recently read a quote that sheds some light for me:  
*“When we let go of fear, only then can we gracefully move from what was into the miracle of what can be.”*

There is much in life to be fearful of, to worry about, to try and change but often this is exactly what keeps us from being open to the grace of God, to the living presence of the Holy One. If we hang on so tightly to the despair, we are not able to reach out for the hope.

A friend loaned me a book called *29 Gifts*, a story of a woman diagnosed with MS and her story of hanging on tightly to the anger, frustration and pain. The woman is given advice about giving away 29 gifts in 29 days – not material things necessarily. The emphasis is on turning her energy outward – moving into the miracle of what can be. As she focused on giving she had much less time and energy to hold on to the misery and she began to blossom.

As we all embark on our daily routines, may we find ways to let go of the burdens so the Sacred One can lead us into the hope of what can be...

# Children and Families

## Club Kids at Harvesters

Sun., Feb. 7

3rd-5th graders are invited to join us for an afternoon of service at Harvesters for SouperBowl Sunday. We will have lunch and fellowship time at church then help out at Harvesters from 2:00-4:00 p.m., returning to church by 4:30 p.m. This will be in place of the evening session for Club Kids. No cost, but please bring several canned goods for Harvesters and wear your Club Kids shirt. Space is limited so RSVP soon to Karla Herrington, karlah@cccckc.org.

## Family Lenten Workshop

Sun., Feb. 14, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Families with children are invited to come and prepare for the season of Lent in this hands on make-'n-take workshop in the Social Hall. Families will make a mosaic cross and children can explore several activity stations to learn about Lent and prepare resources to be used in their homes during Lent. A light lunch will be served. The cost is \$15 per family.

## Fountains of Faith Rotation

The Lord's Prayer

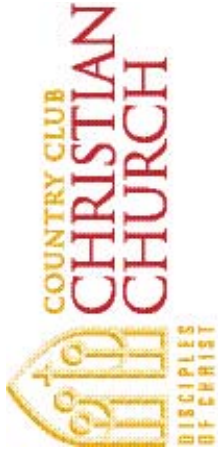
Beginning on Feb. 7, 1st-5th graders will focus on The Lord's Prayer. This is the prayer that unites all Christians. Its universality embraces all forms of prayer, including praise, confession, thanksgiving and petition. The children will explore this prayer through cooking, an art project and more. Make plans to join us Sundays from 9:55 -10:55 a.m.

## First Steps

Sun., Feb. 7

Parents with children under 3 years are invited to join other families on the first Sunday of each month from 9:55-10:55 a.m. in the Pine Room ( Rm. 10). We will gather for informal fellowship with other families with infants and toddlers. We will sing and hear a short story on creation. Make plans to join us.

Non-Profit Organization  
 U.S. Postage PAID  
 Kansas City, MO  
 Permit No. 1498



6101 Ward Parkway  
 Kansas City, MO 64113

Return Service Requested

## Virginia Reed Food Drive on Jan. 24

On Sun., Jan. 24, 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."

## Our Church Family

### Sympathy

BARBARA NOTTBERG passed away Jan. 18. She is survived by a daughter, Martha Lieser, and a son Don Nottberg. Services were Jan. 21 in the sanctuary, Dr. Glen Miles officiating.

## PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. R. Glen Miles Senior Minister	Ms. Lisa McCleish Director of Early Childhood Programs
Rev. Carla Aday Senior Associate Minister	Ms. Laine Riley Associate Director of Music
Rev. David Diebold Minister of Music	Ms. Lara Schopp Director of Communications
Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn Minister to Children, Youth and Families	Ms. Lauren Weinhold Director of Church Growth
Dr. Charles Rolan Interim Minister of Congregational Care	Ms. Marilyn Wimer Director of Administrative Services
Dr. Brian Campbell Associate Organist	Mr. Brandon Winstead Director of High School Ministries
Ms. Sandy Eisenman Director of Financial Services	Mr. Justin Zeigler Director of Middle School Ministries
Ms. Karla Herrington Director of Children's Ministries	

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

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