

# CHRISTIAN

Strength for the Journey. Grace for the Soul.



DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

## INSIDE

Grace Wins Hands Down  
by Glen Miles  
≈≈≈  
page 3

A Time of Renewal  
by Karla Herrington  
≈≈≈  
page 5

A Lenten Prayer  
by Chuck Rolan  
≈≈≈  
page 7

## Easter Offering Will Help with Basic Needs

The 2010 special Easter Offering provides our congregation an opportunity to reach out and make a difference by helping with the most basic of needs locally and in Africa.

Locally, Metropolitan Lutheran Ministry

(MLM) offers services to low-income and homeless individuals, including clothing, rental and utility assistance, and medical necessities.



Saturday breakfast at Metropolitan Lutheran Ministry

Recently, MLM started a Saturday breakfast feeding program in Kansas City's midtown area.

Your support will provide food and supplies to hundreds of children and families in our community.

In Machaze in Mozambique, the scarcity of water is a very serious problem and heavily effects women and girls who walk long distances and stand in line for hours



Women toting water in Machaze to get one bucket of water. Water Wells of Machaze, a ministry of Global Ministries

*continued on page 6*

*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.*

## Children's Choirs Present *Malice in the Palace*

Join us this Sunday, Mar. 7, for *Malice in the Palace*, the annual musical presented by the children's choirs under the direction of Ms. Laine Riley, Associate Director of Music. Following the conclusion of the 11:00 a.m. service, we will be serving a light lunch (cost is \$6.00 per person), followed by the 30-minute show.

*Malice in the Palace* is based on the story of Esther. This show is filled with drama, beautiful music, fun choreography, numerous belly laughs, and a villain that you'll just love to hate! This is fun entertainment for all ages, whether or not you know a child who is participating. The children look forward to the musical every year, and love to sing for a packed house!



## New Members Welcomed on February 21



Michele Moore  
**New Member Host:**  
Sharman Wilson



Andrew Hicks and Kelsey Rigg  
**New Member Host:** Sue Thorne



Sarah Sprague and Justyn  
Dickson  
**New Member Hosts:**  
Craig and Jenny Doty



Phoebe Perryman and her daughter  
Brandy Bryant  
**New Member Host:** Lisa Qualls



Charlie and Sydney Buffum  
**New Member Hosts:**  
Rob Sanders and Sydney  
Wallace

## Leadership Nominations Sought

The process of nominating members of our congregation for various leadership positions for the 2010-2011 church year is underway. This is a time of opportunity, and we ask you to look around and identify youth and adults who are eager to work in a church environment.

The Nominating Committee is soliciting names for the following positions:

- ◆ Congregational Board
  - Chairperson-Elect
  - Treasurer
  - Board Members
- ◆ Personnel Committee
- ◆ Endowment Trustees
- ◆ Elders (including chairperson-elect)
- ◆ Deacons
- ◆ Youth Elders
- ◆ Youth Deacons

Nomination forms and qualifications are available in the parlor and on our website under the Stay Informed tab. Please nominate persons (including yourself) who you feel would serve our church well. Deadline for nominations is Sun., Mar. 14.

If you have any questions regarding the nomination process, please contact Jane Fletcher at 816-333-4917 or [janef@cccckc.org](mailto:janef@cccckc.org). Thank you for your participation in this important process!

**Nominating Committee:** *Mary Lehoczky (Chair), Jeff Algie, Greg Bates, John Cockle, Mindee Forman, Jere Hanney, Brook Howard, Shelle Jensen, Marjorie Jump, Pat Martin, Rod Schlatter, and John Trewolla.*



## Grace Wins Hands Down

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



Lucy, Charlie Brown's famous antagonist and sometimes friend was ready to catch a fly ball that was hit toward her. The ball hit right in the middle of her baseball glove but it popped out and fell to the ground for an error. Charlie ran out to her position and asked, "Lucy, what happened?" "The past got in my eyes."

We laugh because it's funny but we don't laugh too long because we also know that Charles Schultz's little comic strip is about us. The past has the power to blind us. It has the power to

paralyze us, to leave us emotionally and spiritually crippled.

Eugene Peterson is a pastor and seminary professor. He wants students and pastors and folks who sit in the pews to know that "when we sin and mess up our lives, we find that God doesn't go off and leave us—he enters into our troubles and saves us." He is right. However, the past can paralyze me when I forget that God wants to enter into my life. God comes to us in the middle of the mess and begins God's work right there!

We come to church on Sunday mornings looking our best, putting forth our best behaviors and we can easily forget to acknowledge that we are far short of perfect. We sometimes think that we are called to live out our faith in what novelist Susan Howatch describes as a "glittering image." In her novel of the same name, *Glittering Images*, she tells the story of an Anglican priest and the struggles he faces in his personal life and in the life of his parish. This pastor wrestles with the same problems that any normal human being encounters but his biggest problem is found in the fact that he is constantly keeping this "glittering image" on display to everyone; even, and maybe most especially, to the man in the mirror.

We break down, we fall apart, when we refuse to let go of the glittering image. God doesn't want the person you are trying to project to the world, God wants you, nothing more, just you, all of you. We build these glittering images in order to help us block out the past but in the long run they become counter productive. When we behave like this, the past is present, just below the glittering image, waiting to mess up our lives again and again. It is in facing our past and moving forward that we find the God-given strength we need to live the life that God invites us to move toward.

Paul wrote to the church in Rome to remind them that, "when it's sin versus grace, grace wins hands down. All sin can do is threaten us with death and that's the end of it. Grace invites us to a life that goes on and on and on, world without end."

Grace and peace to you,

## Culver-Stockton Choir Concert

We are pleased to invite you to a concert on Sun., Mar. 14 by the concert choir of Culver-Stockton College. The concert will be held in our Sanctuary at 7:00 p.m.

We also need housing for the students. Host families will be asked to take two or more students into their homes, provide breakfast on Monday and return them to the church Monday morning. We will need to find housing for approximately 30 students. If you are able to help with housing, please contact David Diebold at the church.

Culver-Stockton is one of our Disciples of Christ colleges and is located in northeast Missouri. The choir, under the direction of Dr. Kevin Baker, will be on tour throughout the Midwest and we are excited that they have chosen Country Club Christian Church as one of their venues.

## Worship with us!

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

### **Bible Workbench Sermon Series**

Dr. Glen Miles preaching

**Mar. 14**

Men and Women of  
Doubtful Reputation  
*Luke 15: 1-3; 11-32*

**Mar. 21**

Love Wastefully  
*John 12: 1-8*

# 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 as we explore Bible workbench for the six weeks of Lent. 9:55-10:55 a.m.

**Cross-Lines, Mar. 20** – Cross-Lines Community Outreach, 7:00-10:00 a.m. Help prepare and serve breakfast to those in need. Located at 736 Shawnee in Kansas City, KS (corner of 7th Street and Shawnee Dr.) Contact Carol Crouch if you are available to help out (913-341-8848 or [carol.crouch@sbcglobal.net](mailto:carol.crouch@sbcglobal.net)).

**Movie Night, Mar. 27** – Join us for a current movie followed by dinner. Showtime is approximately 4:00 p.m. For updated information, contact Suzy Spencer ([insurance66208@yahoo.com](mailto:insurance66208@yahoo.com) 816-668-4156).

## T.G.I.F. (This Group Is Fun)

Parents with children 6 and under are invited to gather for fellowship and fun the fourth Friday of each month. Our next gathering will be Fri., Mar. 26 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. hosted by Ann McCray. 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](mailto:marymargareth@cccckc.org) or 816-333-4917.

## Pathways to Learning



This is a series of elective offerings open to everyone, focusing upon timely topics on the Bible, spirituality, current events, family life and technology. Ideal for those who aren't involved in a Sunday School class;

entire Sunday School classes are also encouraged to participate as a group. Visitors and guests welcome.

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

### Issues in Health Care Morality

April 11, 18, 25 and May 2

### Being a Servant in the Modern World

July 11, 18, 25

## Nicaragua Mission Trip Builds Community

Twenty persons represented Country Club Christian Church in Nicaragua last week. They built a bench, poured a concrete slab and conducted medical clinics. At the clinics they attended over 200 patients, distributed 425 home health kits, saw 50 dental patients and sent 15 patients to the hospital for follow-up care. But the numbers don't tell the story. The story is one of injustice observed and compassion poured out, of smiles and laughter building bridges of delight across barriers of culture and language, of bodies healed and hearts set on fire.



Clinic in Nicaragua

Thank you to all who donated funds and medicines to the January Collection Connection. Your generous gifts made it possible for the clinics to supply medicine to families who live on one or two dollars

a day. Thank you also to those who traveled: Carla Aday, EJ Becker, Lori Bennett, Susan Bennett, Andrea Bough, Kara Erickson, Bart Finney, Sandy Finney, Bill



Hopkins, Lance Jessee, Carty Johannsen, Dr. Philip Lile, Jane Marty, Allison Melia, Stephanie Pilkington, David Potter, Sue Rempel, Julia Walker and Mary Wood. Special gratitude to the Council of Protestant Churches in Nicaragua for their outstanding leadership of our trip and their ongoing work of empowerment to the poor in Nicaragua. For more information, see the blog at [www.cccckc.org/stay-informed](http://www.cccckc.org/stay-informed).

Many have asked about a little boy named Raul who we have been caring for over the past three years. He has a severe skin disease on his face and head. After a year of dramatic improvement, Raul, age 13, has regressed somewhat and is struggling. After meeting with his local doctor, our team feels hopeful that we can find additional ways to care for his medical condition in the future. Thank you for your love and prayers for the ongoing partnership we share with Nicaragua



## A Time of Renewal

by Karla Herrington, Director of Children's Ministries



I love the change of seasons. I have always thought that Kansas City's seasons are very balanced; as soon as I am tiring of one, the next is beginning. But this winter seems to have gone on foreverrrrrrr! The lingering dreary weather seems to bring out the worst in me; the complainer and the whiner. I'm embarrassed to admit that I find myself fighting for time on my girls' DSI handheld video game. I'm even worried about my high scores getting beat. We've been cooped up inside too long!

I am yearning for all the fun of gathering outside; seeing the neighbors, kids running in and out of the house, the laughter, the smell of a fresh cut lawn, barbecues, the SUN. I need the spirited interactions of spring. It's these interactions with others that renew my spirit and lead me to remember that *we all have the gift of each other*. That's what I love about this job, helping the kids make connections with each other; guiding them to see how God uses us to be at work in each others' lives.

The season of Lent renews my trust that spring is just around the corner. I can't help but think of all the fun opportunities we have planned for the children and families as the weather gets warmer. Be watching for opportunities at Harvesters, Mystery Trips, the Omaha Zoo Trip, Club Kids Family Cookout, South Dakota Family Mission Trip and Vacation Bible School, to name a few. We also have the first Community Camp KC coming in June. Watch for details!

As a new season of opportunities become available here at church, I hope everyone can find something new to try. We can all nourish our old friendships while finding new ones!

*Karla*

## Children and Families

### Family Mission Trip to South Dakota

**June 16-22**

Families are invited to explore the opportunity of the Family Mission Trip to the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation in South Dakota. We will be returning for our fifth summer to work the Lakota Indians. Detailed information is available from Catherine Stark-Corn.

### Palm Sunday Parade

Children are invited to participate in a parade into the sanctuary as part of Palm Sunday on Sun., Mar. 28 at the opening of the 11:00 a.m. worship service. We will have Sunday School in the Social Hall from 9:55-10:55 a.m. for Worship & Wonder and 1st-5th grades, then begin our palm parade – outside (weather permitting) – then into the 11:00 a.m. service. Make plans to join us!

### Club Kids

**March 7 and 14** – No meeting

**March 21 and 28** – Regular schedule  
5:00-7:00 p.m.

April 24-25– Overnight to Omaha

### Vacation Bible School

Save the Dates: July 26-30

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# Upcoming Youth Events

## Youth to Participate in MOSAIC Project on March 7

CYF (grades 9-12) and ChiRho (grades 7-8) youth will be painting tiles as part of the MOSAIC project from 6:00-8:30 p.m. on Sun., Mar. 7 in the Youth Center (Rm. 205). Youth from other Disciples of Christ churches in the area have been invited to join in the project. The youth will paint tiles based on the theme "A World without AIDS." The tiles will be featured in a gallery on First Fridays in the Crossroads District on Apr. 2. Proceeds from the sale of the tiles benefit AIDS WALK Kansas City, which seeks to raise funds to support local AIDS service organizations.

## CYF Laser Tag and Pizza

All CYF (grades 9-12) youth are invited to participate in a game of laser tag followed by pizza on Friday evening, Mar. 19. We will gather at the church at 6:30 p.m. and go to Advanced Laser Tag and play laser tag for 1½ to 2 hours and then eat pizza and come back to the church at 10:30 p.m.

## Chi Rho Mission Trip

All current 6th-8th graders are invited to participate in the Chi Rho mission trip to Indianapolis July 11-17. The trip will provide an opportunity to hang out with friends and serve others. For more information, contact Justin Zeigler at [justinz@cccckc.org](mailto:justinz@cccckc.org).

## CYF Mission Trip

CYF (grades 9-12) will travel to Chicago this summer July 18-24. Contact Brandon Winstead at [brandonw@cccckc.org](mailto:brandonw@cccckc.org) for more information.

## Summer Camps

For many, church camp is the ultimate of faith experiences. A week at Tall Oaks Conference Center camp includes meeting other Disciples of Christ youth, participating in small groups, and learning how to live in faith. Activities include teams course (Chi Rho), high ropes (CYF), swimming, talent show, dance and many other fun events.

Register by Apr. 30 by going to [www.talloaks.org](http://www.talloaks.org) and clicking the link to "Camp," where you'll find a list of all the camps, dates, rates, and directors along with links to the on-line registration and link to all the forms that can be downloaded. Be sure to read the procedure information very carefully to make sure you are completing all the registration documents. Contact Chris Trout for more information at 816-333-4917 or [christ@cccckc.org](mailto:christ@cccckc.org).

### Tall Oaks Camp Dates:

June 1-5	Chi Rho 1 (6-7 grades)
June 6-11	CYF 1 (9-12 grades)
July 4-10	Eighters (8th graders)
July 11-16	CYF 2
Aug. 3-7	Chi Rho 2

## Easter Offering, *cont. from page 1*

involves the construction of two water wells that are estimated to benefit about 200 families in Machaze. Global Ministries is a common witness of the Division of Overseas Ministries, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and Wider Church Ministries, United Church of Christ.

These programs will help children and families improve their lives and grow in the love and grace of God. We ask for your prayerful consideration and generous support for these groups. Drop your offering in the offering plate on Sunday mornings. If you would like to give via credit card, please contact Sandy Eisenman at 816-333-4917.



# A Lenten Prayer

by Dr. Charles Rolen, Interim Minister of Congregational Care



The Lenten journey is an opportunity for spiritual focus and growth. The Lenten discipline of fasting, or “giving up,” in order to make room for spiritual insight and growth lasts 40 days for a reason. Forty is a biblical number that symbolizes a “complete journey.” Our scriptures teach that the rains in the time of Noah lasted 40 days and nights. Likewise, the number 40 describes the period of years the Hebrew children wandered in the wilderness. After his baptism, Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness in preparation for his ministry. The time span between Christ’s resurrection and ascension – 40 days! The outcome of these

“complete journeys” is movement, preparation, or birth from one state into a new realm of being. It represents transition into a new future, a new way of being ... one defined and graced by God!

The 40 days of Lent can lead to new, God-defined horizons, opportunities, hopes, and dreams. They may come on the wings of angels; they may come through the presence of people like you and me who seek and serve God. I share a prayer I discovered a few years ago and have returned to every season of Lent since. The prayer is based on Mark 1:9-15. Take a moment to read this scripture and then immerse your being in these thoughts. The following prayer was written by a Disciples Minister, the Reverend Kay Lynn Northcutt:

A Lenten Prayer on Mark 1:9-15

*O God  
Your earth is bountiful, damp, crowded with the work of  
Spring  
And new life  
We long to be like Your Earth's  
Resurrection  
In our lives, our prayers, our faith and our churches  
But  
Resurrection journeys are paired with wilderness sojourns  
(like life and death)  
they are companions of one another –  
holy companions woven inextricably together by You  
And so  
Immediately after our Lord was baptized –  
The Spirit – your Spirit – drove Jesus into the  
Wilderness  
Where he was mightily tried  
And in constant danger  
Except  
Except for those angels –  
Those messengers from God  
Who “served” Jesus in the dangerous wilderness  
(What Mark really wrote was that the angels “deaconed” Jesus)  
Deaconed him  
We are being driven, too, no doubt by Your Spirit  
Into wilderness places of danger  
Where we will be mightily tested and tried*

*continued on top right*

*And deaconed by messengers from God.  
We have known such deaconing  
In hot casserole dishes when we are sick or dying  
And in cards and letters of consolation  
We have known such deaconing  
When together we work for justice  
And nurture deep roots of spiritual vitality as we  
pray  
Together  
In times of wilderness, God,  
Give us clear sight  
To watch for special messengers  
Sent to deacon us  
Send us those choirs of angel-deacons!  
Amen.*

(Rev. Northcutt presently serves on the faculty at Phillips Theological Seminary, Tulsa, Oklahoma.)

*Chuck*

## Holy Week Schedule

### **Palm Sunday Worship—Mar. 28**

Families are invited to join the Palm Parade at the 11:00 a.m. service, and we will also celebrate the baptisms of our Pastors’ Class participants.

### **Maundy Thursday—Apr. 1, 7:00 p.m.**

In remembrance of Jesus’ last supper, we gather to sing hymns, read scripture and celebrate communion. Pastors’ Class participants will partake in their first communion.

### **Good Friday—Apr. 2, 12:15 p.m.**

Experience the darkest day on the Christian calendar with worship of readings, hymns and solos. A 15-minute organ prelude begins at noon with worship following at 12:15 p.m.

### **Easter Sunday—Apr. 4**

#### **Special Service Times**

Celebrate the miracle of Easter at Country Club Christian Church!

7:00 a.m. – Sunrise service in the George Hamilton Combs Chapel.

8:00 a.m. – Worship in the Sanctuary, led by our clergy, plus the children’s and youth choirs.

9:30 and 11:00 a.m. – Worship in the sanctuary, led by our clergy, the Chancel Choir and the Kansas City Brass.

### **Easter Breakfast—7:30-9:30 a.m.**

Begin Easter with a complimentary breakfast in the Social Hall.

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Kansas City, MO 64113  
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## 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

**Dr. Charles Rolan**  
Interim Minister of  
Congregational Care

**Dr. Brian Campbell**  
Associate Organist

**Ms. Sandy Eisenman**  
Director of  
Financial Services

**Ms. Karla Herrington**  
Director of Children's  
Ministries

**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

**Ms. Marilyn Wimer**  
Director of  
Administrative Services

**Mr. Brandon Winstead**  
Director of High School  
Ministries

**Mr. Justin Zeigler**  
Director of Middle School  
Ministries

## Virginia Reed Food Drive on March 21

On Sun., Mar. 21, 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

MILDRED SCHOOLING passed away Feb. 26. She is survived by two daughters, Linda Schooling Kekina and JoAnn Schooling Sims Gillula. Services were Mar. 2 in the Sanctuary, Rev. Carla Aday officiating.

JIM JOHNSON passed away Feb. 27. He is survived by his wife, Donna Johnson. Services are Mar. 6 in the Sanctuary, Dr. Charles Rolan officiating.

### Memorials

**Jean Deacy**

Perry & Jeanne Cockayne

**Phil Loevenguth**

Margaret & George Lund  
Jay and Mary Buehler

**Barbara Nottberg**

Larry Barnhart  
Betty Henson  
Betty Merrill  
Janet Boone Service Club  
Nancy Hatfield Laubach  
Mrs. William E. White

**Robert Anderson**

Jay and Mary Buehler

**Permanent Missionary  
Endowment Fund**

**Vera Golly**

Virginia Reed

**George Gordon**

**Congregational Care Fund**

**Warren Bergholt**

Marvel Jane Bergholt and  
family

### Honorarium

**Virginia Reed**

Virginia Reed Food Drive  
Randy & Cindy Irely

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