



DISCIPLES
OF CHRIST

VOLUME 85 · NUMBER 5

COUNTRY CLUB

CHRISTIAN

Strength for the Journey. Grace for the Soul.

INSIDE

Beware: Truth
Being Told
by Glen Miles
≈≈≈
page 3

A Friend When You
Least Expect It
by Karla
Herrington
≈≈≈
page 5

Community Is
Created
by Chuck Murphy
≈≈≈
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.*

Celebrate the Miracle of Easter

This sermon series ties into the Bible Workbench study underway during Lent.

Mar. 13 – Snakebitten, *Genesis 2: 15-17, 3: 1-7*

Mar. 20 – Is There Such a Thing as *Good Religion?*, *John 3: 1-17*

Mar. 27 – Truth and Wisdom Lead to Love and Compassion, *John 4: 5-42*

Apr. 3 – Rev. Carla Aday preaching, *John 9: 1-41*

Apr. 10 – A Walk Through A Graveyard, *Ezekiel 37*

Apr. 17 – The Magnificent Defeat, *Matthew 27: 11-54*



Gordon, John Dominic Crossan, Atul Gawande, Rachel Naomi Remen, and many more.

Participants will reflect on the scripture that Dr. Miles will preach about that week during worship. See page 2 for more information.

Holy Week

Palm Sunday Worship – Apr. 17
9:00, 10:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Families are invited to join the Palm Parade at the 11:00 a.m. service, and we will celebrate the

baptisms of our Pastors' Class participants.

Maundy Thursday – Apr. 21

7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

In remembrance of Jesus' last supper, we gather to sing hymns, read scripture and celebrate communion.

Good Friday – Apr. 22

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

Easter Sunday – Apr. 24

Heart Quake, *Matthew 28:1-10*

Dr. R. Glen Miles preaching

8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary. The Kansas City Brass will join us at the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. services.

Easter Breakfast. 7:30-9:30 a.m., Social Hall.

Worship and Study

Ash Wednesday

Mar. 9, 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary

The first service of Lent invites us into this season with a traditional imposition of ashes to symbolize the fragile nature of our lives.

The Peaceable Kingdom

Mar. 13, 11:00 a.m.

The Chancel Choir will present Randall Thompson's *The Peaceable Kingdom* in the Sanctuary during the 11:00 a.m. worship service on Mar. 13.

Bible Workbench

This creative and interactive approach to Bible study brings a refreshing look at how real life and ancient scriptures intersect. Provocative questions with parallel readings from Mary



Sign Up for a Bible Workbench Group During Lent

Consider participating in a Bible Workbench group during Lent. 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. Classes are listed below. All groups will meet at the church beginning in March. Sign up in the parlor on Sunday.

The book costs \$25. Library copies will be available for use in the library only.

Childcare will be available by reservation. Contact Mary Margaret House at marymargareth@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917.

Sunday Night Group

Leader: Julie Miles
Sundays, Mar. 6-Apr. 10, 6:00-7:30 p.m. Rm. 201

Mom's Group

Mom's of children (infant through ele-

mentary age). Leader: Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn. Saturdays, Mar. 12-Apr. 16, 9:30-11:00 a.m. Solarium



Men's Group

Leader: Jeff Zimmerman.
Wednesdays, Mar. 9-Apr. 13,
7:00-8:30 a.m. Parlor

Monday Evening Group

Leader: Rev. Chuck Murphy
Mondays, Mar. 7- Apr. 11, 6:00-7:30 p.m. Youth Center

Thursday Morning Group

Leader: Rev. Carla Aday
Thursdays, Mar. 10-Apr. 14, 9:30-11:00 a.m. Rm. 201

The following Sunday School classes will participate in Bible Workbench during their Sunday School classes on Mar. 13-Apr. 17: New 20s class, Yawhose, Crossroads, Outlook, Koinonia.

Leadership Nominations

It is time to nominate persons to fill elected positions within our church for the 2011-2012 church year. 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 Mon., Mar. 21.

Business Administrator Search

As mentioned in the Jan. 21 issue of *The Christian*, a search committee has been formed for the purpose of selecting an individual to serve as Church Business Administrator. The Business Administrator position was created based on the recommendation of the Alban Institute. John Cockle is chair of the committee. Other members are Pat Martin, Barbara George, Marcia Berry, Wayne Heady, David Forsee and Lee Brumitt. The goal is to have the Church Business Administrator in place by July 1, the start of the next fiscal year.

The search committee is seeking applications from qualified candidates. The position has been posted on the church's website. To view the posting, go to our website, www.cccckc.org, and click on Employment in the upper right corner of the page. The job has been posted on several other websites, including the National Association of Church Business Administrators (NACBA). The position is also being advertised through the national and regional offices of our denomination and the local chapter of the NACBA. Applications are due by Mar. 15.

Staff Responsibilities During Interim Period

During the search process for a business administrator, supervisory responsibilities have been temporarily assigned as follows: practical services, Dr. Glen Miles; operations and capital campaign, Rev. Carla Aday; maintenance staff, Lauren Weinhold; administrative staff, Lara Schopp; building usage, Mary Margaret House.



Beware: Truth Being Told

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



Anytime we are willing to face the truth we must be careful. We must be cautious. Truth telling is not something to venture into unless we are ready to pay attention to what really matters in life, to what is most important in our own world. Who knows, paying attention to the truth might even save our lives.

One of the things that we must pay attention to is the fact that everyone comes to worship carrying something heavy; a past mistake, a future worry, an unknown venture. Everyone on a Sunday morning is in need of God, in need of something holy in their world, in their homes, in their business. On Sundays we put on our best face and we say everything is great. However, underneath the veneer of that cool collected calm we are desperate for a chance to speak the truth, to hear the truth.

Telling the truth is the hard work of the season of Lent. Lent begins next week with Ash Wednesday. In the Ash Wednesday service we will ask any who are willing and able to come forward to receive the mark of the cross, the sign of forgiveness. It is about being honest. We won't disclose intimate personal secrets and sins but we will face the sometimes difficult reality that each of us needs to be forgiven.

Not everyone likes to deal with that truth. My friend Russell, a brilliant youth worker, told me about a youth pastor who went to a large mega-church. It was filled with lots of young people under 40. There were kids everywhere. The new youth pastor noticed that there was no cross anywhere to be seen; not out front, not in the sanctuary, not on any of the printed materials. The new guy asked the senior pastor, "Why no cross?" He replied: "We've discovered that the cross doesn't market well."

The cross may not market well but it stands as a reminder that we are called to tell the truth about life. We are called to remember the cross, to remember the crucifixion, death, burial and resurrection of the one we name Lord. That is not always an easy thing to do but when the truth is being told, when honesty in our faith is the path we choose, our lives will be turned around, saved even.

I pray that our journey to the cross in this season of Lent will open our eyes to the new life offered by God to all.

Grace and peace to you,

Save the Date!

Celebration Dinner and Auction

Mark your calendar for the second annual Celebration Dinner and Auction. Join us on Sat., June 18 at the National World War I Museum at the Liberty Memorial (100 W. 26th Street, Kansas City, MO). Watch for more information.



Worship with us!

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

Mar. 6
God Loves Justice
Psalm 99

Lenten Sermons
Bible Workbench 3.0
March 13
Snake Bitten
Genesis 2: 15-17; 3: 1-7

March 20
Is There Such a Thing
as *Good Religion?*
John 3: 1-17

Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

Save the Date for Grace at Work on April 9

Do you have the passion to volunteer, but don't know where to start? Do we have an opportunity for you! Join us at the 3rd annual Grace at Work event on Sat., Apr. 9, a fun-filled half-day volunteer event open to all ages and abilities. Grace at Work supports our church and area organizations through our participation in various hands-on projects. Many different volunteer opportunities are available. Through your participation you will have the opportunity to experience fellowship, while assisting others in need and creating visible change in our community. Beginning Sun., Mar. 20, look for sign up tables in the Last Supper sculpture room off the Parlor.



Crossroads Sunday School Class Sunday Brunch

Are you married? Single? Have kids? Don't have kids? Are you between the ages of 35 and 55? If you answered yes to any of these questions then answer this one: Have you ever heard of the Crossroads Sunday School Class?

Whether you answered yes or no to that last question you owe it to yourself to join us on Sun., Mar. 6 during the Sunday School hour (9:55-10:55 a.m.) in the Last Supper sculpture room off the Parlor for a very informal brunch. Since the Children's Musical is at noon that day, this will offer you some extra nourishment before the excitement of *A Barbecue For Ben*.

You will have the chance to meet members of the class and ask questions about what we do, what our vision for the group is and how you can fit in. We want to meet you and hear your ideas! We hope you'll join us. Even if you can't stay the entire hour just drop in, grab something to eat and find out why we have so much fun together! Contact Michelle Schlatter at michelle1@me.com for more information or to ask questions.

Pathways to Learning Reviving the Soul through Music, Art, Literature



May 1 – Reviving the Soul through Music – Jane Chu, President and CEO, Kauffman Center for Performing Arts
May 8 – Reviving the Soul through Art – Julian Zugazagoitia, Director of the Nelson Atkins Museum of Art

May 15 – Reviving the Soul through Literature – Crosby Kemper III, Director Kansas City Public Library

2011 New Orleans Mission Trip

For the seventh time, Country Club Christian Church will send a mission team to New Orleans to help with the reconstruction. The trip will be Sun., Oct. 30 through Sat., Nov. 5. We will once again work in partnership with the UCC to obtain our work projects. Betsy Wilson will be the trip leader. Watch for more information and details.

2011 General Assembly – Tell It!

The theme of the 2011 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) comes from Moses' cautionary sermon to the Hebrew people before they enter the Promised Land. This land flows with milk and honey, but bounty clouds identity. Pay attention! Do not to trust your memory. Post reminders. Repeat this command so that even unborn generations inherit it. In short: "Tell it!"



The theme is based on Deuteronomy 6: 1-12. *"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD; and you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might."*

The general assembly will be July 9-13 in Nashville, TN. Information and registration materials are available at www.disciples.org/ga. Save by registering before April 1.



A Friend When You Least Expect It

by Karla Herrington, Director of Children's Ministries



I have to admit, I love a good snow day and this winter certainly brought several not to mention a fun blizzard thrown in! Along with sitting by the fire, sledding and hot cocoa, we always manage to break out a good movie at our house. This month, the movie *Because of Winn Dixie* resurfaced. It's an old favorite of mine. If you've seen it, you know it's an uplifting movie about a mischievous dog (Winn Dixie) who befriends a lonely young girl (Opal) and helps her make friends. By the end of the movie, new friendships are being nourished and joy has opened hardened hearts.

All of this because each took time to listen to each other.

On another snow day, I was parking near 63rd and Main, when I noticed a lady running and waving to catch the bus, only to be left behind. I pulled up and offered her a ride. As I drove to 63rd and Prospect, one of her first questions was, "Where do you attend church?" I told her and we chatted for a bit about our churches. It was a lovely conversation, each of us listening to find out more about the other. I realized that I want to be more like "Cassandra." She wasn't worried about walking or riding, she was confident she would make her destination. She had a strong faith that God was paving the way; let it be hard or easy.

I have a prayer card, "*Lord as I travel through this day, grant me the vision to see your plan for my life, and the courage and devotion to follow the path you set before me.*" I have been using this prayer card like a mantra. It helps me slow down, listen better, and be present. The prayer calms me when things don't go as I planned and keeps me open to new friendships and opportunities that land in my path.

God is constantly weaving people into our lives; sometimes for a moment, sometimes for a lifetime. Just like my brief moment with Cassandra and the lifelong friendships bonded in *Because of Winn Dixie*, I can trust that everything is being woven together carefully as long as I take time to look and listen.

And as for movies and snow days, I'm open for another good movie to fall in my path but am planning to "spring over" any more snow days!

Karla

Service of Prayer for Healing and Wholeness

Mon., Mar. 7 at 7:30 p.m.

Join us for a peaceful time of song, scripture and prayer at 7:30 p.m. on Mon., Mar. 7 in Combs Chapel. Note the change of day and date. This service offers an opportunity for church members and friends of our church to share prayerful concerns as well as blessings.

Welcome to our Visitors!

Are you a frequent visitor who has been considering becoming a member of our church but just haven't taken the next step? Are you new to the Country Club Christian Church community and want to find out what there is for you here? Whether you're ready to join or simply want to learn more about Country Club Christian Church, we invite you to attend the next **Information Open House on Sun., Mar. 13** from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the Last Supper Sculpture room off the parlor. Stop by to learn about the ministries, classes and services that interest you. Visit, ask questions, learn about the church and enjoy dessert. The next New Member Sunday is Mar. 20 at the 11:00 a.m. service.

Hartman School Partnership Draws Over 100 Volunteers

More than 50 people attended the orientation meeting on Feb. 19 kicking off the church's new partnership with Hartman Elementary School of the Kansas City, Missouri School District. Representatives from the school and the district, including School Board President Airick Leonard West, were on hand to discuss the partnership program.



Volunteers signed up to assist and tutor younger students in the school's SuccessMaker program, adopted classes to assist teachers with classroom events, parties, etc., and signed up to help assemble backpacks for the Harvesters Back Snack Program. Additional volunteers from Country Club Christian Church are attending other orientation sessions, bringing the total number of participants from our church to more than 100.

If you are interested in signing up as a volunteer, please contact Greg Bates at gbates@kc.rr.com or Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn at catherinesc@cccckc.org to fill out a background check form and learn about other orientation opportunities.

Nicaragua Mission Trip Successful

Thousands of vitamins and pain killers, hundreds of tubes of antibiotic ointment and hundreds of toothbrushes made up the 450 home health kits distributed to families in three rural villages by the 18 members and friends of Country Club Christian Church who traveled to Nicaragua Feb. 19-27.

The group's medical team saw more than 175 patients, many of whom had never before seen a doctor, and more than 200 children received fluoride



treatments. Part of the team helped construct the foundation for a water purification system to be built later this year by another United States-based mission team.

Though the team's return trip to Kansas City stretched into a 25-hour ordeal requiring them to fly into Omaha, NE, due to bad weather here, team members were greeted by a team of four angels from the church who drove through the night to pick them up in vans and bring them safely back to Kansas City. All team members remain enthusiastic about the experience in Nicaragua... the friendships formed, the spirit shared, and the community created between our church and the gentle and faithful Nicaraguan people. If you are interested in going on next year's mission trip to Nicaragua (dates to be determined), please contact Rev. Carla Aday at carlaa@cccckc.org.

Youth Events

CYF: Ice Cream and Honesty

CYF youth will gather on Tues., Mar. 22 at TCBY in Prairie Village (6966 Mission Road) for ice cream and honesty. This is an excellent time to explore spiritual issues and topics with friends and enjoy frozen yogurt or ice cream on Brandon's tab! Contact Brandon Winstead at brandonw@cccckc.org.

Sunday Youth Groups

Mar. 6 – 5:00-8:00 p.m.

5:00-6:00 p.m. Fellowship Singers

6:00-8:00 p.m. Chi Rho (grades 6-8) snack supper and youth group at church.

6:00-8:00 p.m. CYF (grades 9-12).

Snack supper and youth group hosted at the home of Betsy and Jack Dee. If you need a ride, be at church by 6:00 p.m. Brandon will be taking the church van to the Dees' home. Anyone riding in the van with Brandon will be back at church by 8:00 p.m. for parent pick-up. Questions? Email Brandon at brandonw@cccckc.org.

Mar. 13 – No youth group meetings.

Mar. 20 – 5:00-9:00 p.m.

5:00-6:00 p.m. Fellowship Singers

6:00-6:30 p.m. Snack supper

6:30-8:00 p.m. Youth groups

8:00-9:00 Musical jam session



Community Is Created

by Rev. Chuck Murphy, Minister of Congregational Care



I've just returned from our Friday prayer ministry and I feel like I have spent all my energy. Cancer, abuse, unemployment...so many people hurting for so many different reasons. Each one a precious child of God, yet life takes unexpected turns and people are hurting.

And, it's not just in our community that these tragic events occur. The earthquake in New Zealand, people losing their homes as the result of winter storm damage and floods, civil unrest around the world, and stories of lost and hurting

children seem to fill our airways. If prayer works – it does, doesn't it? – then, why are all these things happening?

Why have I felt the presence of God when asking for a parking spot when someone else dies alone? Why have the tests for my loved ones turned out negative when others start the difficult road of disease and decline? Then, the arrogance of my ego starts to speak. If I had just prayed for them, then maybe they wouldn't have been killed in that tragic accident. If I had just prayed for a member of our congregation, then maybe they wouldn't have gotten sick or be going through the difficult situation they are now facing. If I had just...Whoa, first ego, now guilt?

During the last few weeks, I have found myself praying more than I think I have ever prayed. I have been with more people who are hurting, more groups that wanted community prayer; even one group had to help me finish a prayer that I had started. This morning I found myself in tears praying for an Amish family who lost three children in floods and local people killed on roads due to bad weather conditions. Yet, through the tears the words from Psalm 8 came through very clearly, "*Lord, O Lord, how majestic is your name.*" The God of Creation cares about all of us. God chooses to know us and participate with us in our deepest troubles and experience our pain. And, in that sense of community, hope arises.

Even in our heart wrenching moments, the God of creation experiences the depth of our humanity creating community. So, when we pour out our hearts in compassionate prayer for others, we too create community with ones in need. When we pray, it matters not what the story is, no judgment is made on the right or wrong of choices, no assumption to what "God's will" may be, let alone a prejudiced voice based on any form of discrimination that separates us from another. The words, the form of prayer matter not. Grace filled compassion does. Prayers are not said without empty words, but with deep movement of the heart that binds us to one another. Community is created. Hope arises.

Chuck

Children and Families

Lenten Workshop – March 13

Children will learn about the season of Lent during the Sunday School hour with make-n-take stations. Parents are invited to come by at the end to learn ways they can help their family observe the season of Lent in their home.

Tall Oaks Summer Camps

Turning the calendar page to March gives us hope that summer is on the way! There are numerous opportunities for children to participate in summer camps at Tall Oaks – our denomination's camp and conference center. From single-day camps to overnight camps, elementary age children will find their time at Tall Oaks memorable as they explore the theme "God Is." Please check out the opportunities on the website at www.talloaks.org.

Vacation Bible School

July 25-29

As you are making summer plans, be sure to save the week of July 25-29 for Vacation Bible School here at Country Club Christian Church for children 4 years old through 5th grade. Watch for more information in weekly emails.

Club Kids (3rd–5th Graders)

March 6 and 13 – No meeting

March 20 – Back to regular schedule

SAVE the DATE – Omaha Zoo Overnight, Sat., Apr. 30–Sun., May 1

Moms' Group

Join us in volunteering at Rose Brooks on Tues., Mar. 22 from 9:30-11:15 a.m.

Childcare is available with RSVP by Thurs., Mar. 17. Please email Karla Herrington (karlah@cccckc.org) if you are interested in this serving opportunity.

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



6101 Ward Parkway
Kansas City, MO 64113

Return Service Requested

Daily Lenten Email Devotions

Receive inspiration throughout the Lenten journey from daily emails written by our minister and church leaders. Contact Jane Fletcher at janef@cccckc.org to be included in the emails. If you received the Advent devotions, you are on the list for the Lenten devotions.

Food Drive on March 20

On Sun., Mar. 20, please bring your nonperishable food items for the Virginia Reed Food Drive, our collection for local food pantries that serve the homeless and hungry. Vans will be in the parking lot to receive your food or it can be placed in the barrels located at the east and north doors. Food is also purchased in case lots for the pantries, so cash donations are welcome. Please mark your donation "Food Drive."

Our Church Family Sympathy

ANTHONY KEITH WEBER passed away Feb. 18. Survivors include his wife, Margie, and daughters, Leslie and Tricia. Services were Feb. 24 in the Sanctuary, Dr. Glen Miles officiating.

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

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

Mr. Brandon Winstead
Director of High School
Ministries

Mr. Justin Zeigler
Director of Middle School
Ministries

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

816-333-4917 fax: 816-333-7538
email: office@cccckc.org website: www.cccckc.org