



DISCIPLES
OF CHRIST

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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.*

Rob Gilkerson Selected as Church Business Administrator

The Personnel Committee is pleased to announce that Rob Gilkerson will join the staff as Business Administrator for Country Club Christian Church. Rob will begin his position with the church on June 1. The Search Committee, chaired by John Cockle, feels fortunate to have found someone with the educational background and management experience that Rob brings to the position of Business Administrator.



Rob Gilkerson

For the past three years, Rob has served as Business Administrator for Clarkston United Methodist Church in Waterford, MI. Prior to that, Rob served as a Director in the Boy Scouts of America for almost six years, first for the Heart of America Council in Kansas City and later for the Clinton Valley Council in Waterford, MI.

Rob grew up in Kearney, MO, and lived there through high school. He graduated from Baker University with a bachelor's degree in business administration with an accounting emphasis. Rob is a member of the National Association of Church Business Administrators. He has completed half of the course work required for certification as a Church Business Administrator, and expects to receive his certification in 2012.

Rob and his wife, Carrie, have two children – a son, Baden, 7 years old, and a daughter, Ella, 5. Rob and Carrie met while attending Baker University. Carrie is from Wichita.

Glen Miles, Senior Minister, said Rob will be a welcome addition to the staff. "I am thrilled to welcome Rob Gilkerson to our staff. He has excellent skills and experience, and comes highly recommended by Rev. Richard Dake, the Senior Pastor of Clarkston UMC."

Celebration of Service Is May 5

Celebration of Service marks the conclusion of an outstanding church year where countless members have served God in the church and community. Your generous service will be honored at this annual dinner. Enjoy a Mexican buffet of tamales, taco salad, limeade and flan.

We will honor Cinco (5) persons who have served the church and community in the past year. Church officers will be recognized. Join us for a fun and relaxing evening of celebration.

Sign up in the Parlor on Sun., May 1. Childcare available by reservation to Mary Margaret at marymargareth@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917.



Church's Financial Position Stronger

As we enter the last quarter of the 2010-2011 fiscal year, the church's financial position is stronger than in the previous two years, thanks to a number of measures undertaken by the congregational board and the staff, and to the generosity of our members in their annual financial gifts to Country Club Christian Church.

Two years ago, in the wake of the challenging economic climate and decreased pledged giving, church leadership took steps to reduce expenditures and streamline processes, while maintaining high levels of excellence in ministry. These steps included closing the Limbaugh Print Shop located on the ground floor of the church, eliminating two staff positions, a 5 percent decrease in compensation for the entire staff, reduction of program budgets, the cancellation of the 8:00 a.m. Chapel worship service, and a number of energy abatement strategies. In addition, last year's 90th Anniversary celebration dinner and auction was established to raise funds for the operating budget.

As a result of these measures, our net loss for the 2009-2010 fiscal year was minimal. In addition, pledged giving for the current fiscal year increased over last year, placing us in a more solid financial position.

Today the church's cash flow is much stronger, the staff's compensation has been reinstated and the endowment fund's earnings have rebounded. Further, we have hired a new Church Business Administrator to manage church operations and finances, ensuring continued fiscal responsibility. (see article, page 1)

We are extremely grateful for your continued financial gifts to the church. Each contribution is important, each is valued, and we thank you with hearts full of gratitude for both your financial generosity and all the ways in which you show God's love to others!

Copies of the church's financial reports are available in the finance office.

Sustain Our Legacy, Strengthen Our Foundation

On June 12, members will be asked to make two commitments in the same campaign.

One commitment is to the annual stewardship drive, our appeal to members to make a 12-month commitment to support the operating budget, which includes staffing, programs, utilities and daily maintenance. The second commitment is to the Capital Campaign, a three-year financial commitment to pay for larger capital improvements. Learn more about the campaign at www.cccckc.org.



Upcoming Campaign Events:

- Informational Events. There is still time to sign up for an information event. Visit cccckc.org for dates.
- Campaign Carnival, Sun., May 1, 4:00 p.m., Social Hall. A special event for children 3 years to grade 5, including a bounce house, face painting, crafts and food. Parents will attend an informational session about the campaign.
- Campaign Prayer Service. On Wednesday evenings all are invited to participate in a scripture and silent prayer service in support of the joint campaign. The first service is May 4 at 7:00 p.m. in Combs Chapel. The last Wednesday service is June 8. The services will last 20 minutes and will consist of four periods of scripture and silent prayer, concluding with the campaign prayer.

Pathways to Learning in May: Reviving the Soul through Music, Art, Literature



Beginning May 1, a three-part series will focus on different aspects of the arts. The programs will be presented

from 9:55 to 10:55 a.m. in the Social Hall.

Pathways is ideal for those who aren't involved in a Sunday School class. Entire Sunday School classes are also invited to participate as a group.

Visitors and guests welcome.

May 1 – *Reviving the Soul through Music* – Jane Chu, President and CEO, Kauffman Center for the 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



Easter Glow

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



As we bask in the glow of Easter, let's ask, "What would it be like to live within this light every day?" Two thousand years ago Paul wrote to a little church in Ephesus with this very thought in mind. He wrote to tell them that God's plan was to gather up all things, including you and me and everyone else, according to God's good pleasure, to hold us in the arms of love. This news was so exciting to Paul that he wanted that congregation to live in praise of God in such a way that everyone would begin to see NOW that God's love is real.

God's plan was for love to rule. Paul concludes the first half of this letter with a prayer for the church. It's a prayer for us too because it is a prayer for all Christians: "...that you may be strengthened in your inner being...and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love."

Paul is praying that we will see everything and everyone in the world through the eyes of love. But he doesn't end there, he continues to pray: "I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."

His prayer is quite clear; he wants us to connect our hearts and minds through the love of God. He is asking us to bring our whole selves to God with the intent of strengthening that connection between our emotions and our intellect. One without the other is weak. Together they form an amazingly strong bond; one that is able to withstand anything this life may throw at us.

The Christians in that congregation, like us, must be wary of living a life rooted in fear, anxiety and worry. They are called to seek the opportunity to grow in the faith, not tightly cling to self-preservation.

The "fullness of God" allows us to live within the light of Easter, to remember that love wins, grace reigns and mercy abounds.

Grace and peace to you,

Easter Offering will help Feed the Hungry

Thank you for your generous contributions to this year's Easter Offering. As of Thurs., Apr. 28, more than \$12,000 has been collected to help Feed the Hungry at Cross-Lines Community Outreach food kitchen, Harvesters Community Food Network, Micah Ministries, and CEPAD, the Council of Protestant Churches in Nicaragua. Easter Offerings are still being received, so if you would still like to participate, please send your check, marked "Easter Offering" to the church office or drop it in the offering tray on Sunday.

Worship with us!

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

**Sermon Series
Love Wins, Now What?
Becoming the Person God
Wants You to Be**

May 1

Part 1: Don't Stop Believin'
1 Peter 1: 3-9

May 8

Part 2: Go With the Flow
John 7: 37-39

May 15

Part 3: Fill Your Heart, Mind and
Soul with Excellence
Mark 12: 28-34

Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

Join in the Acorn Run

Sun., May 1, join the CAYA (20s) class in the Acorn Run to benefit Tall Oaks Conference Center. Whether you want to participate with our team in the 5K run, come cheer us on or sponsor one of our runners, we welcome you to be a part of this fun afternoon. Contact Steve Mason, Pastoral Resident, at stevem@cccckc.org for more details.

Native Wildflower Sale on May 8

The Country Club Christian Church Green Team is having a native wildflower sale on the church lawn on Sun., May 8 (Mother's Day). A table will be set up outside (inside the back entrance if it is raining) with plants for sale from about 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Quart size plants will be \$5 and smaller plants will be \$3. All of the plants are native to our area and should be carefree if planted in the right location. There will be plants for shade, for wet areas (rain gardens) and sunny spots.

Micah Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Independence Boulevard Christian Church is hosting a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on Tues., May 10 for all Micah volunteers. If you have served a meal, worked in the clothing closets, assisted with the children's ministries or baked a cake for Micah Ministries, you are invited to join other dedicated volunteers for an evening of good food, laughter and fellowship at Independence Boulevard Christian Church. To RSVP for the dinner, please contact Lauren Weinhold at laurenw@cccckc.org.

Community Camp Kansas City Coming in June

Families with children of all ages are invited to gatherings of fellowship and fun on Wednesday evenings this summer, June 8, 15, 22, 29. Dinner will be served from 6:00-6:30 p.m. followed by activities for children, youth, and adults. This time of intergenerational fellowship is inspired by the annual Community Camp in Estes Park, but closer to home!



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.

Sat., Apr. 30 – Community service organizational meeting at the home of Carol Crouch. Bring a salad, side dish, or dessert and information and ideas for projects you want to present for consideration as a volunteer project. For more information, contact Carol at carol.crouch@sbcglobal.net or 913-341-8848.

Sun., May 8 – Brunch, location TBA.

CWU May Friendship Day Celebration

Church Women United of Kansas City, MO, invites you to join them for their annual May Friendship Day Celebration and Luncheon on Fri., May 6, at 11:00 a.m. at Friendship Baptist Church, 3530 Chelsea (near 35th and Emmanuel Cleaver Blvd.). Share in celebrating the women who have held keys to Christian faith and practice throughout history and in the 70-year history of the organization. Please send \$8.00 per person to Registrar, 14908 Glenwood Ave., Overland Park, KS 66223 by May 1.

More² Banquet is June 9

The 6th Annual MORE² banquet "Imagine: Building Relationships to Change the World" will be Thurs., June 9 at the Reardon Civic Center. The keynote speaker for the evening will be Rabbi Michael Zedek, Senior Rabbi at Emanuel Congregation in Chicago, IL. Tickets are \$60 each. For more information, please contact Lauren Weinhold, laurenw@cccckc.org.



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 following Hurricane Katrina. The trip will be Sun., Oct. 30 through Sat., Nov. 5. We will once again work in partnership with the United Church of Christ to obtain our work projects. Betsy Wilson will be the trip leader.



Time to Say Goodbye

by Laine Riley, Associate Director of Music



Every year it seems that the month of May flies by so quickly. School schedules ramp up to fit in the last performances, honors programs and banquets. This year in my daughter Jordan's class, each day is marked with a celebration of a letter of the alphabet. Busy, exhausted parents are signed up to send in bubbles on Thursday, chalk on Friday, and the list goes on through the end of the year. The pace at the end of the school year can be frantic, then all too soon it comes to a screeching halt. Another year is complete, and we prepare for what comes next.

In just two weeks, we will be honoring our graduating seniors here at Country Club Christian Church. Every year it is difficult to say goodbye to our graduating seniors in Fellowship Singers. We miss the gifts that they shared with us, and often have to work pretty hard to fill the gap that has been left. We have been privileged to have some extremely talented singers and accomplished leaders who have given of their time and talents for years.

This crop of Fellowship Singers seniors will also be missed. It's hard for me to believe that our current seniors were in the 8th grade when I began working with many of them. Even then, at that young age, many of them were section leaders in the Fellowship Singers. In spite of their many school and sports commitments, they managed to juggle their schedules to get to rehearsals and be available to sing in worship whenever possible. They are a fun, intelligent, committed and gifted group.

So, before May gets away from me, I want to say to our seniors: Thank you for giving of yourselves to the music ministry of the church. Thank you for responding to my guilt-inducing phone messages and showing up even when it was inconvenient and very, very early in the morning. Thank you for the many times you inspired members of this congregation, and for being leaders within the choir. Most of all, thank you for teaching us about stewardship by example.

It is my hope that as you move on to whatever comes next for you, that you will find a place to share your talents, not only to serve, but to feed your soul. Know that wherever you go, Country Club Christian Church is always a place you can call home. Congratulations to you all. It has been a privilege.

Laine

Preaching Award to Justin Zeigler

Congratulations to Justin Zeigler, Director of Middle School Ministries, for receiving the Roy M. Brady Preaching Award. This award is given to a graduating student of Saint Paul School of Theology who demonstrates excellence in preaching. Brady was a professor of preaching who endowed the award to support and recognize outstanding homiletics. Students are nominated by faculty and invited to submit samples of their preaching. The winner is chosen by faculty. Justin will be accepting the award and preaching at a chapel service on Wed., May 11 at the seminary.

May Collection Connection

GiveWhatYouGot.org, a program of Cornerstones of Care, provides birthday and holiday gifts as well as hygiene items to children living in foster care in Kansas City.

GiveWhatYouGot.org is currently in need of the following.

New:

- Journals/pens
- Art supplies (sketchbooks and craft kits)
- Frames and albums
- Disposable cameras
- Stuffed animals

New or gently used:

- Toys
- Books
- Dolls
- Games and puzzles
- Sports items (footballs, Frisbees, etc.)

Please place your donations in the bin in the Parlor.

Pastors' Class Participants Baptized

Nine youth at Country Club Christian Church have taken part in the 2011 Pastors' Class, led by Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn and Justin Zeigler, Director of Middle School Ministries. On Palm Sunday, Apr. 17, these individuals made formal statements of their faith and were baptized during the 11:00 a.m. service.



Top row: Dr. Glen Miles, Wynne Reddin, Addison Schlatter, Clayton Forsee, Ed Scott, Jr., Justin Zeigler

Bottom row: Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn, Payton Wiley, Ashley Bough, Caroline Brumitt, Sarah D'Attoma, Amalia Murguía

Upcoming Youth Events

Senior Recognition Is May 15

Our graduating high school seniors will be recognized in the 11:00 a.m. service on Sun., May 15. Immediately following the service, the seniors will be honored at the Senior Celebration Brunch in the Social Hall. Cost for the brunch is \$12 per person. Make your reservations with Mary Margaret (marymargareth@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917).

Destination Unknown

Kick off your summer with a fun-filled trip to an undisclosed location. Join other Chi Rho and CYF youth for a mid-morning departure on Fri., June 3 as we travel to our mystery site for a

two-night overnight with a Saturday that you will not forget! We will return before dinner on Sun., June 5. Space is limited. RSVP to Heather Rotter at heatherr@cccckc.org.

Summer Mission Trips

Plans are being finalized for Chi Rho and CYF summer mission trips.

Chi Rho will travel to Minneapolis, MN, for work in an urban community, July 10-15. Cost is \$250 (travel via van).

CYF will return to Chicago, IL, to continue work with partners there. July 17-23. Cost is \$350 (travel via train).

Celebration Dinner and Auction

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

Donate a Personal Service

Do you have a special talent, interest or hobby you could share for the silent or live auction? The auction committee is looking for "personal" donations of time or expertise.

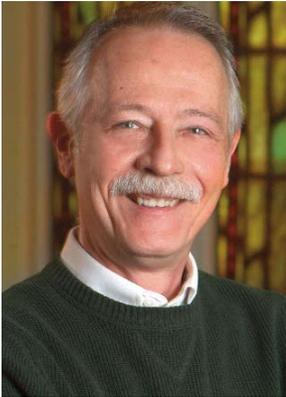
- Love to garden? Enjoy cooking? Donate your expert consultation.
- Are you a dentist, doctor, architect, financial advisor or other professional? Offer free counseling, procedures or consultation. Are you an attorney? Donate a basic will for new parents.
- Do you have a "knack" putting clothes together or always finding the best bargains? Donate a day of "personal shopping" or style consultation.
- Are you a photographer, artist or musician? Donate a photo sitting, portrait or lessons.

The ideas are endless and you decide how much time and its value. Even small donations can be combined with other donations to create a great package! Ask your friends with unique talents to donate their time too. Participate in the success of this year's auction by using your talents and creativity. Even if you can't attend the event, this is your opportunity to be there in spirit. Call or email Michelle Schlatter: michelle1@me.com or 913-568-6252. ALL donations must be received NO LATER than May 20!



Signs of Resurrection

by Rev. David Diebold, Minister of Music



As I write this, Easter is two days past. Life has returned to normal. The glittering moments of brass and hallelujah have grown dim. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we had those moments all the time? Not just one or two Sundays a year through the year. I suspect that moments of resurrection come to us on a regular basis, but perhaps, we don't notice them – the moment lost in the busyness of our lives.

Just over 30 years ago, a massive F5 tornado ripped through Wichita Falls, TX. The storm was one and a half miles wide and left a path of over eight miles. In its aftermath, the church where Susie and I were married and entire neighborhoods were leveled to the ground; trees were either ripped out of the ground or looked as if a bomb had detonated just above the trunk, leaving shards of broken fingers where the limbs had once been. Over 10,000 persons were homeless. With familiar landmarks gone, most could not find whatever was left of their houses. Even street signs were gone.

Viewing the city several weeks after the storm we were stunned by the magnitude of the damage. But here and there we saw signs of rebirth: people had painted street names on curbs so that families could find their property. Debris was beginning to disappear. Most stunning was the fact that the devastated trees had already begun to sprout new leaves. In the midst of all the carnage, these signs of young, green leaves gave people a sense of hope. The city began the arduous task of rebuilding. Today, the once vanished neighborhoods are back, trees tall, again providing shade. It took many years to come back, but those parts of the city that had disappeared are now revitalized.

Isn't it the same in our personal lives? Signs of resurrection can come to us shortly after we experience a trauma. In other cases that new life may take much longer, but it still comes. Whether we have been leveled by something as simple as an argument or as devastating as the loss of a loved one or loss at the hands of violent weather, resurrection comes.

My hope for each of you is not only that you will experience those moments throughout the year, but that your eyes will be open and your hearts ready to accept it when it comes.

David

Children and Families

Fountains of Faith Sunday School

Who Can Be A Christian?

1st-5th graders will begin the final rotation in "Quest for Identity" on May 1. Throughout this year we have explored various biblical characters and their stories of coming to faithfulness to God through words and actions. In this final rotation of this year we will explore our identity as Christians and how that is lived out in our daily lives. We will meet for this rotation on May 1, 8 and 15 from 9:55-10:55 a.m.

Club Kids

We are coming to the close of our Sunday night gatherings for 3rd-5th graders for this school year. We have lots of fun planned for these May sessions so mark your calendars and plan to be here!

May 1 – Returning from Omaha no evening session

May 8 – No meeting – Mother's Day

May 15 – Messy May Games, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

May 22 – Family BBQ. Parents and siblings are invited to join us for games, fellowship and a cookout from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Tall Oaks Summer Camps

Summer is quickly approaching and Tall Oaks Conference Center, our denomination's camp and conference center, is a great way for kids to get a fun-filled camp experience. From day camps for children completing K-2nd to overnight camps for children completing 2nd grade and up, there is something for all ages! Please check out the website at www.talloaks.org.

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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

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

Dr. Brandon Winstead
Director of High School
Ministries

Mr. Justin Zeigler
Director of Middle School
Ministries

Service of Prayer for Healing and Wholeness

Tues., May 24 at 7:30 p.m.

Please join us on Tues., May 24 as we light candles in memory of deceased friends and loved ones at the Service of Prayer for Healing and Wholeness. This will be a peaceful evening of remembrance as we come together in song, scripture and prayer. Note, this is a combined service for May and June. Following this service, the next one will be July 5.

Our Church Family Sympathy

WILLIAM "BILL" SEATON passed away Apr. 10. He is survived by his wife, Donna, and three daughters. Services were Apr. 20 in the Sanctuary, Dr. Glen Miles officiating.

HARRISON "HARRY" HILFINGER passed away Apr. 14. He is survived by his wife, Fontelle, and three daughters. Services were Apr. 16 in the Sanctuary, Rev. Chuck Murphy officiating.

FRANCES E. LILLY passed away Apr. 21 in Mexico, MO. Services will be Apr. 30 in Mexico.

ALICE MAY WILSON passed away Apr. 22. Services will be Apr. 30 at 11:30 at the Park Lawn Chapel, 8251 Hillcrest Road.

Memorials

Harry Hilfinger

Dorothy & Harvey Ray
Tri C's Sunday School class
Randy & Cindy Irey
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Mooney
Paula Lane
Richard & Margaret Lyon
Maureen McGinty

Feeding Ministries of Country Club Christian Church

Rev. Bill Miles

Randy & Cindy Irey
Greg & Nancy Lear
Maureen McGinty
Paula Lane
Jarene & Lee Stanford
Senior Minister Search Committee of 2003

Music Endowment Fund

Jody Kleweno
Earlane Croom

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