



2012 Stewardship Campaign Special Edition

STRENGTHEN OUR FOUNDATION

Our annual Stewardship Campaign is underway. We are very excited about the opportunities before us this year as a congregation. We are moving forward with capital work, building our ministries and strengthening our outreach.

You should have received a commitment card in the mail recently. Please mail it or drop it in the offering plates on any of the upcoming Sundays. Finally, we hope that you join us on May 13 for Commitment Sunday when we will celebrate the gifts that we have received.

INSIDE

**I'm Making Three
Stewardship Pledges**
by Glen Miles

≈≈≈
page 3

Happy Graduation
by Laine Riley

≈≈≈
page 5

The Better Way
by Steve Mason

≈≈≈
page 7

Each year Country Club Christian Church asks each of us to make a financial pledge or provide an estimate of giving for the coming fiscal

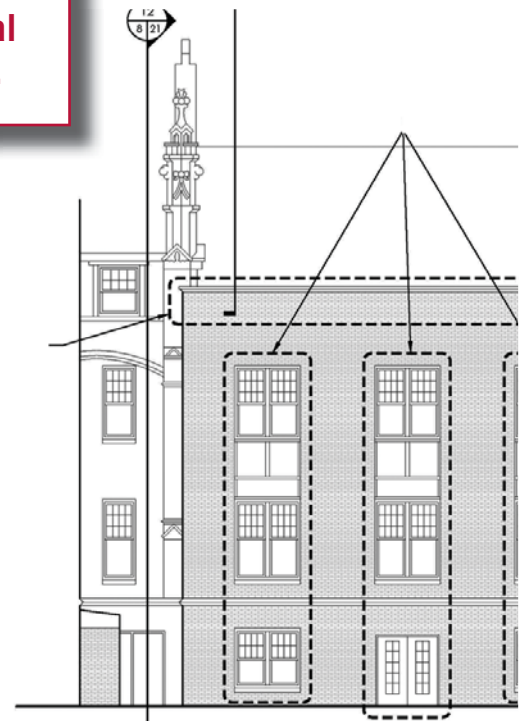
year. Your gifts to our annual campaign support more than 40 ministry programs which proclaim the unconditional love of God for all people. Spiritual development, service to neighbor and loving compassion permeate each ministry area.

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Each of us has many personal things about which we might offer thanks, and as we consider God's generosity and grace, our thanksgivings grow. One of the ways we live thankfully is to return a portion of the material gifts God has entrusted to our care to the ministries and mission of the church. It is with gratitude for your past generosity and with enthusiasm for our church's future that you are invited to continue your support of the church and its ministries by considering an increase in this year's pledge.

Simple Gifts

The sermon series for this year's campaign is "Simple Gifts." Dr. Glen Miles and Rev. Carla Aday are preaching the gifts of Earth, Faith, Hope and Love. See page 3 for more information.



Drawings for restoration work



Capital Campaign Update

Last May you were asked to make a commitment to our three-year Capital Campaign. This campaign still needs your help. To date we have raised \$2.2 million of our \$3.3 million goal. If you have not yet made a Capital Campaign pledge, or believe you could increase your pledge, please do not miss the opportunity to “Strengthen Our Foundation.” We have currently raised just enough to do the largest parts of building restoration. However, repairing the organ and several other building improvements are also priorities that need funding.

Estimates of Projects as of Spring 2012:

■ Exterior restoration and painting	\$1,987,000 (includes 10% contingency)
■ Repair Solarium roof	\$30,000
■ Repair waterline under 61st St.	\$20,000 (1/2 completed Nov. 2011)
■ Repair organ	\$450,000
■ Replace stained glass window covering	\$200,000
■ Go Green	(No cost estimate)
■ Replace worn carpet	\$12,000 (Completed Oct. 2011)
■ Hands On Outreach	\$330,000 (based on hitting \$3.3M target)
■ Update kitchen and bathrooms	\$93,144
■ Chapel Bride and Groom Rooms	\$20,000
■ Support the Endowment Funds of the church.	No specific amount was designated.
Allowance for unforeseen expenses	\$157,856
Grand Total:	\$3.3 million

Our Outreach in Turkey

As the annual stewardship campaign gets underway, the Outreach Council would like to highlight one of our most recent grant recipients – the Women-to-Women World Wide Service Project in Turkey. The Istanbul Interparish Migrant Program (IIMP) is supported through our alliance with Global Ministries.

Established in 1991 by local churches in Istanbul, the IIMP supports the tremendous influx of immigrants to Turkey from the two Gulf wars, the Mid-East conflicts and, more recently, from Syria.

This project has supported women and children immigrants from more than 50 countries. Most arrive on foot, some legally, some through human trafficking, and others fleeing for their families’ safety.

There are six major areas of support:

- Mom and Tots – nutrition and health support for preschool aged families.
- Rent, utility subsidies and travel support – for interviews for permanent placement.
- Clothing.
- Adult Education – language and literacy. Local schooling for children.
- Voluntary re-patriation.
- Assistance to families – birth and delivery, early infant support for nutrition, diapers and vitamins.

Along with a grant from our Endowment Fund, your annual stewardship commitment provides our council with the financial resources to continue this very important work. Thank you.

Status of the Organ

Our Sanctuary organ is in a state of decline. Installed in 1971, the mechanical portions of the organ are wearing out. There are two main areas that need attention: the leather, which seals all of the air channels is drying out and the main console has obsolete technology.

Our instrument has a total of 65 stops that produce sound, along with 31 mechanical devices. One year ago, 59 sounds worked, indicating a slow decline. Since that time, only 47 stops and 27 of the 31 mechanical devices work properly. The process is accelerating. Eventually, the organ will stop making sound altogether.



I'm Making 3 Stewardship Pledges

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



A friend of mine in ministry was leading a stewardship campaign. He told his congregation about the studies of Elizabeth Kubler Ross. She was a trailblazer in the study of how people die. Some of her work seems simple now but she was a pioneer. When she reviewed the thousands of interviews she conducted, she noticed that no one ever spoke of ownership or accomplishment. They only spoke of relationship. She concluded that at the end of life, "the things that we will care most about will be those moments of love, those bonds of relational love that

we have developed between other people, our family, our friends and others."

My friend asked his congregation during their pledge drive: "What percentage of your time do you spend in those three areas of your life; ownership, accomplishment and relationship?" This is a very sobering exercise.

I told some of you recently about a disturbing stat that an old youth minister buddy of mine sent my way. My buddy asked, "How much time do you think the average father spends in actual conversation with his children?" He had me stumped. He said, "45 seconds per day." Dad leaves early, comes home late. The kids are in school and sports and there is homework and friends and, well, you get the point.

45 seconds.

I am making three pledges this year. Our pledge to the church operating fund will be a good one for us: 10 percent of our income. We will continue our capital campaign pledge, too. We are glad to help with the renovations and repairs.

I am making a third pledge, too. It is to my family and it is about giving them more of my time. There is a certain amount of sacrifice in each of these promises but one thing is clear, the more I give, the better I feel.

Grace and peace to you,

Coffee with Glen

There is one more opportunity to join Glen for coffee to talk about our dreams for the coming year and to discuss hopes and wishes for our congregation's shared work. Mon., Apr. 30 at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Katie and James Cronin. Please RSVP to 816-333-4917 or marymargareth@cccckc.org.

Worship with us!

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

**Stewardship Sermon Series
Simple Gifts**

April 29

The Gift of Faith
Matthew 6:25-34

May 6

The Gift of Hope
Romans 5: 1-5
Rev. Carla Aday preaching

May 13

The Gift of Love
I Corinthians 13: 1-13

Pathways to Learning – City of God

May 6, 13, 20

The Bible mentions “the city” more than 850 times. This three-part series will look at poverty as a key challenge faced in our city today and how we can faithfully address poverty to build up greater Kansas City. The series includes local experts on poverty as well as key metro leaders whose comprehensive approaches offer opportunity for all to get involved. Sundays 9:55-10:55 a.m., Social Hall.

May 6: The Face of Poverty



Laura Bauer



Sister Berta Sailer

- Laura Bauer, *Kansas City Star* reporter for the series on childhood hunger
- Sister Berta Sailer, Co-Founder of Operation Breakthrough
- Dave Schmidt, a Brookside father whose family consciously set out on a social exercise to survive on a poverty-level budget for a year

May 13: Our Community Response to Poverty

E. Frank Ellis, Chairperson and CEO, Swope Community Enterprises and Board Chair, Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce will cover the comprehensive approaches he is leading to address poverty in our metropolitan area.



May 20: Kansas City – A Metro Approach to Poverty

Mayor Sly James will speak on initiatives in Kansas City and across the metro to build up greater Kansas City and stem poverty.



Community Camp KC

Wednesday evenings in June

We are making plans for our third annual summer family fellowship gatherings on Wednesday evenings in June (6, 13, 20, 27). Join us for dinner and lots of fun activities. Each Wednesday night will feature a different fun activity including Magic Bob, inflatables, water games and a petting zoo. Join us from 6:00-8:00 p.m. This time of intergenerational fellowship is inspired by the annual Community Camp in Estes Park, but closer to home!



Haiti Mission Trip

If you are interested in going on the mission trip to Haiti Nov. 1-7, contact Julia Walker, juya213@yahoo.com, for more information.

Virginia Reed Food Drive on May 20

On Sun., May 20, 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.”

Christian Community Camp in Colorado

Spend a glorious week at the YMCA of the Rockies near Estes Park, CO, July 28-Aug. 4, 2012. Cost is \$1,400 for a private room; \$225 for the bunk room. Each private room sleeps a maximum of six people. A bunkroom contains all bunks and sleeps eight. Food and activity fee of \$75 per person. For more information call Jane Fletcher or Carla Aday at the church at 816-333-4917 or email carlaa@cccckc.org or jane@cccckc.org. A brochure is available on the website at www.cccckc.org.



Happy Graduation

by Laine Riley, Associate Director of Music



Every year since Jordan was in kindergarten, I have had the fun privilege of accompanying the “graduating” kindergarten class during their end of year ceremony. The ceremony is absolutely adorable, as you might expect. My favorite part is their entrance. The students enter from the back, wearing identical Chapel Lakes Cheetahs t-shirts. They are introduced by one of the kindergarten teachers. This year, parents will hear, “Please welcome the class of 2024!” Every year the introduction is met with a collective gasp, quickly followed by thunderous applause. 2024? How is that possible?

I feel much the same way when I think of our graduating seniors here at Country Club Christian Church. They’re already graduating? How is that possible? When I started directing the Fellowship Singers six years ago, these students were among the youngest singers. It has been wonderful to watch them develop into the fine leaders and musicians that they are today.

On Sun., Apr. 29, we will be honoring our graduating seniors here, and singing together for one last time. Every year it is difficult to say goodbye to our seniors in Fellowship Singers. We will miss their gifts and have to work pretty hard to fill the gap that each one will leave.

We have been privileged to have many of this active group of seniors as 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, talented, 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 smiling, even when it was inconvenient and very, very early in the morning. Thank you 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

Celebration of Service Week Culminates in Ice Cream Social

Sun., June 24, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

This year the church will observe “Celebration of Service Week” from June 18-24. During this week, we will thank the servants and leaders of the church’s various council or ministry areas. At the conclusion of the week, on Sun., June 24, the church will join together in celebrating our church members’ service to God and neighbor during the annual Ice Cream Social from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. This event will feature complimentary hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken sandwiches, Foes’ custard and toppings, and the ever-popular balloon artist. As we celebrate together the great ministry that we share, we will pause to honor our outgoing chairpersons of the Elders and Congregational Board and welcome our incoming Chair of the Congregational Board and Chair of Elders.

Upcoming Youth Events

Youth Group

6:00-8:00 p.m.

Sun., Apr. 28 – Combined outside games.

Sun., May 6 – Salvation Army night at children’s shelter. Meet at the east door at 6:00 p.m. and return to church at 8:00 p.m.

Sun., May 13 – No Youth Group. Happy Mother’s Day!

Service and Community Opportunities

Thurs., May 3, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Harvesters. Meet at church.

Fri., May 4, 5:45 p.m. – CYF Only

Royals game. Cost is \$25 for tickets and food at the game. Meet Justin at church at 5:45 p.m. to travel to game together. RSVP to Justin Zeigler at justinz@cccckc.org by Wed., May 2.

Thurs., May 10, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Go to ReStart, a ministry in downtown KC, to help serve meals. RSVP to Justin Zeigler at justinz@cccckc.org by Tues., May 8.

Thurs., May 24, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Go to ReStart, a ministry in downtown

KC, to help serve meals. RSVP to Justin Zeigler at justinz@cccckc.org by Tues., May 22.

CYF Mission Trip

Join your fellow youth Sun., July 15 - Sat., July 21 in Chicago, IL, as we “Walk, Love, Do” in the windy city.

We will continue to work with those organizations that have helped us serve the hungry. Cost is \$350. RSVP to Justin at justinz@cccckc.org ASAP.

Chi Rho Mission Trip

Join your fellow youth Sun., June 24 - Thurs., June 28 in St. Louis, MO. Be part of “Walk, Love, Do” as we work with organizations that help end hunger and violence in people’s homes. Cost is \$250. RSVP to Justin at justinz@cccckc.org ASAP.

Summer Camps

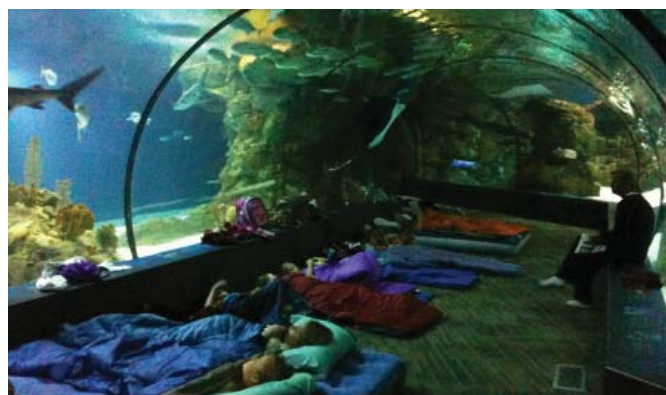
Summer camp at Tall Oaks Camp and Conference Center is fun. Visit www.talloaks.org for more information or to register. Summer camp opportunities include day camps for K-2nd

graders, overnight camps for 2nd-high school and grandparents camps. Early Bird discounts due Apr. 30. You can register online. Fees are paid to Country Club Christian Church and will be sent by our church to the camp. Questions contact Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn at catherinesc@cccckc.org.

Justin’s Blog

Justin is blogging about a new faith practice every month. A “faith practice” is incorporating something into daily life that helps us see God in the world. Every month Justin will notify youth and families of what his new faith practice will be and asks that others follow his blog and help keep him accountable in his journey. Find Justin’s blog on the church website (www.cccckc.org).

Club Kids to Omaha Zoo



Club Kids enjoyed an overnight trip to the Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha on Apr. 21. The children camped in the Aquarium section of the zoo.

Pictured above are *back row*: Mark Lopatofsky, Aislinn Sullivan, Zoey Jensen, Evan Hulsey, Jack Bartlett. *Front*: Will Roske, Spencer Corn, Henry Valdivia, Ben Crocker, Dustin McCasland, Danielle McCasland, Lauren Reddin, Megan Herrington, Taylor Corn, Sam Berry. *Seated*: Kylar Feurborn, Lauren Herrington.



The Better Way

by Steve Mason, Pastoral Resident



My job ends June 30. My intentional two-year residency will come to a close and my wife and I will move to serve another congregation. My job search is through our denomination's system of "Search and Call," which can best be likened to an online dating service, pairing ministers with compatible congregations. But as anyone knows, money is an issue in new relationships. Whether that's two people getting a joint checking account or a congregation sharing financial information with a new minister—money can stress any relationship.

While I'm perfectly comfortable talking to congregational search committees about programs, preaching and vision; I start to balk when asking about stewardship and giving. My hesitation only grows when we start talking about salary. As a couple that has considerable student debt, wants to start a family soon and plans on purchasing a second car, I get apprehensive stating my needs. I sometimes worry that commitment by my wife and me to pre-tax tithing is foolish and wonder if we should wait until our debts are paid and savings accounts stocked before giving. I come from a family—and most Midwesterners do—where money isn't talked about in polite society. It isn't like New York where you can meet a stranger and the second question is, "so, how much do you pay for rent?" Here, we don't generally publically voice our salary, our mortgages or talk about tithing.

But, what Jesus taught his followers was to acknowledge their needs, to trust God's care and to respond with generosity. Jesus talked a lot about money and anxiety that limits our abilities and goals. Jesus' message frees disciples from anxiety, shows God's alternative economy as one where all of creation is cared for, and lets people be honest about what they can give in gratitude to the church. We struggle with this teaching in the church today as we name the needs of the church, pay our clergy and staff living wages, and trust God enough to tithe. In *This Odd and Wondrous Calling*, minister Lillian Daniel chronicles her struggles with money and tithing. She finally concludes that, "We talk about money not because it shouldn't mean anything to us, but because it obviously means so much. So I preach about money all year round, not in order to raise funds for the church, but because I need to hear God's word on the subject...I preach to remind myself, and others like me, of a better way."

As I embark on my next congregational setting and as we embark on empowering a bold mission of this congregation, may we trust God's economy that names our need, frees us from anxiety and emboldens us to imagine all the things God has in store for us. To me, this truly sounds like a better way.

Steve

Children and Families

Club Kids (3rd-5th graders)

Sun., Apr. 29

Regular Session, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Sun., May 6

Regular Session, 5:00-7:00 p.m. Messy May Games

Fountains of Faith Sunday School

Apr. 15-May 13

1st through 5th graders will begin a new rotation, Into the World, the Sunday after Easter. Through Scripture and other readings the children will explore prophets of our day and how we are called by God. We look forward to seeing you from 9:55-10:55 a.m.

Vacation Bible School

July 23-27, 9:00 a.m.-Noon

Make plans to attend our annual summer VBS. This year the theme is *SonSurf Beach Bash*. We will learn about various parts of Jesus' life and how we can seek to live in God's way. For ages 4 years old-5th grade (completed in May 2012). Save the dates!

Family Mission Trip to Joplin

Families with children in elementary school or older are invited to participate in the Family Mission Trip, Thur., June 7–Sun., June 10. We will be working and staying in the Joplin area to help continue the recovery and rebuild effort after the 2011 tornado. Our families will work under the direction of AmeriCorps to plant trees and gardens; help paint and do simple clean up jobs and more. We will be housed in a local church. If you are interested, contact Catherine Stark-Corn at catherinesc@cccckc.org.

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Return Service Requested

Healing and Wholeness Prayer Service on May 22

Please join us for a peaceful time of song, scripture and prayer at 7:30 p.m. on Tues., May 22, in the Combs Chapel. This service offers an opportunity to share prayerful concerns as well as blessings. Come join a worship of grace and acceptance, a sacred place for prayer that will create moments where hope may carry you in the journey ahead. This service is a combination service for May and June. The service after it will be July 3.

Our Church Family

Sympathy

GLEND A. STEINLE passed away Apr. 15 in Dallas. She is survived by two daughters, Heather Kemble and Jennifer Stanford. The memorial service was Apr. 19 in Dallas.

DR. WILLIAM "BILL" BRADSHAW passed away Apr. 22. He is survived by his wife, Dottie, and two daughters. The service will be Sat., Apr. 29 at the church. Dr. Glen Miles officiating.

ESTHER F. LOCKWOOD passed away Mar. 22. She is survived by her son, Dr. Gary Lockwood. Services were Mar. 27.

PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. R. Glen Miles Senior Minister	Ms. Karla Herrington Director of Children's Ministries
Rev. Carla Aday Senior Associate Minister	Rev. Steve Mason Pastoral Resident
Rev. David Diebold Minister of Music	Mr. Brian Mathias Associate Organist
Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn Minister to Children, Youth and Families	Ms. Lisa McCleish Director of Early Childhood Programs
Rev. Chuck Murphy Minister of Congregational Care	Ms. Laine Riley Associate Director of Music
Mr. Justin Zeigler Minister to Youth	Ms. Lara Schopp Director of Communications
Mr. Rob Gilkerson Business Administrator	Ms. Lauren Weinhold Director of Church Growth

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Memorials

Robert Bates

Robert Steinbach

Ernest Witt

Maureen McGinty

Sandy Eisenman

Leta Mae Hodkins

Jim Martin

Patty & Brad Ives

Radio Broadcast

Richard Chapman

Bob & Alyce King

Colombarium

Virginia "Jill" Strafer

Dorothy Smith

Dick & Paula Johnson