



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.*

## Growing Food to Feed the Hungry

### Gardens at Church Grow Vegetables Instead of Flowers

Have you noticed that the church has vegetables to feed the hungry in beds where annual flowers used to grow?

Edible landscaping greets visitors with sidewalk plantings of cabbages, lettuces and basil at the south entrance. Another area near the preschool playground is full of vegetables which preschoolers nurture. The preschoolers sample the fresh vegetables and then the produce is donated to Harvesters. They also learn to help provide healthy, fresh food for people in our community who may have no food at all.

The church's Green Team hopes to demonstrate that it's possible to grow a significant amount of produce in a relatively small space. In the past, efforts have annually produced 55 bags of fresh vegetables, including 38 pounds of cabbage, that were donated to Harvesters.

The effort also helps to raise awareness of the problems of hunger in our area. Harvesters provides food to 1 in 8 people in our region. The USDA reports that Missouri ranks sixth in the nation in food insecurity and Kansas ranks eighth. A total of 44 percent of the food inse-



Edible landscaping on south side

cure population does NOT qualify for federal nutrition programs and often must rely on charitable food assistance programs.



### Plant-a-Row for the Hungry

Plant-A-Row for the Hungry encourages local gardeners to plant an extra row of vegetables or fruits and donate the produce to Harvesters. They distribute the fresh produce to local feeding programs throughout Greater Kansas City. Pick-up sites are at local garden centers. For a list of pick-up sites, visit [www.Harvesters.org](http://www.Harvesters.org).

The church also has moved from disposable cups to reusable cups, helping to reduce our waste by two-thirds.

Because of these and other initiatives, Country Club Christian Church has become known as a leader in green practices in the metro area. Through our relationship with Sustainable Sanctuary Coalition we are able to learn from others and also share our successes.

This is a combined effort of the congregation, staff and ministers, and the Green Team. The Green Team is looking for new members to help with all of its responsibilities – educating members about sustainability, assisting with gardening, communicating initiatives to church members, evaluating church practices and building to make as green as possible. Volunteers don't need to be knowledgeable but interested in learning. Contact the church office if you are interested.



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## Annual Congregational Meeting Is June 3

On Sun., June 3, annual congregational meetings will be held after each worship service to vote on next year's slate of officers, new board members, elders, deacons and trustees. Please be sure to attend worship that day so that you have an opportunity to vote!

The Nominating Committee has presented the following 2012 slate:

**Chair of the Congregational Board** – Barbara George

**Immediate Past Board Chair** – Stuart Hoffman

**Chair-elect of the Congregational Board** – Jared Rose

**Secretary of the Board** – Kathy McDandel

**Treasurer** – Scott Glasrud

**Congregational Board Members**

*Administration* – Kathryn Holtz

*Worship* – Tim Webster

*Outreach* – Sandy Finney

*Spiritual Growth* – Phil Howes

*At-large* – Mary McClure

**Chair of Personnel Committee** – Lesley Holt

*Personnel Committee Member* – Carty Johannsen

**Endowment Trustees** – Lynn Cockle, Lou Kurz, John Stewart

**Chair of Elders** – Jere Hanney

**Chair-elect of Elders** – Gloria Findley-Grogger

**2013 Nominating Committee** – Lori Bennett, Annie Brabson, Dean Grogger, Lindsay Howes, Carolyn Hughes, Kevin Melia, Suzy Spencer, John Trewolla

**Elders** – Katie Allison, Annie Brabson, Stan Cyphers, David Hunter, Phil Love, Mary McClure, Tim Webster, Jim Wells, Betsy Wilson

**Deacons** – Carol Arms, Susan Bell, Holly Koch, Charles Lockhart, Dawn Murphy, Bob Wiley, Suzy Wiley

**Youth Elders** – Grant Forsee, Jansen Hess, Michaela O'Connor, Ben Gallagher, Ted Gallagher, Joey Gamble, Steven Miles

**Youth Deacons** – Jackson Berry, Sam Berry, Dylan Boster, Ashley Bough, Caroline Brumitt, Sam Brumitt, Jane Commerford, Taylor Corn, Clayton Forsee, Alyssa Hess, Parker Hoffman, Hailey Hunter, Margo Hunter, Charlie Jensen, Kathryn Kubin, Morgan Larrison, Lita Lockhart, MaKenna Lockhart, Garrett Moffat, Amalia Murguía, Sophie Nearmyer, Gracie-Ann Peters, Wynne Reddin, McKale Wiley, Payton Wiley

## Recommended Bylaw Revision

At its May meeting, the Congregational Board adopted a resolution recommending that the congregation consider the following amendment to the Bylaws relating to the Finance Committee:

Section VI.B of the Bylaws is hereby replaced in its entirety by the following new Section VI.B:

B. Finance Committee

There will be a Finance Committee, which will consist of members of the Congregation appointed by the Chairperson of the Congregational Board in consultation with the Treasurer of the Congregational Board. The Finance Committee will include, but will not be limited to, members of the Congregational Board and the Endowment Trustees. The Treasurer of the Congregational Board will chair the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee will be responsible for budget, audit and stewardship functions.

This amendment will allow for Endowment Trustees and other members of the congregation to be included, along with members of the Congregational Board, on the Finance Committee and specifies that the Treasurer of the Congregation will be the chair of that committee. It is believed that those changes will help make the Finance Committee more effective. The congregation will vote on this amendment at the annual meeting on June 3.

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## Pathways to Learning – City of God

PA+HWAYS + LEARNING



**Mayor Sly James to Speak**

Kansas City Mayor Sly James will be the featured speaker for Part 3 of this month's Pathways to Learning Series: City of God. Mayor James' topic is *A Metro Approach to Poverty*. He will speak on initiatives in Kan-



sas City designed to build a greater Kansas City and stem poverty. Please join us in the Social Hall from 9:55-10:55 a.m. Visitors welcome.



# You'll Love What You Hear

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



While on retreat a few weeks ago with a group known as The Desert Brothers one of the guys showed the rest of us an ad from a magazine. It was a promo piece for Bose earphones. The ad said:

*you'll love what you hear  
and what you don't.*

Excitedly he said, "I love this! I wish we could use this for the church." He looked at me and asked, "Miles, wouldn't this sound great? 'Country Club Christian Church, you'll love what you hear and what you don't.'" He was right, I really do like the sound of that!

I hope I don't get in trouble with Bose for bringing this up in a church newsletter but I really like the way that reads as a promo for our church. (By the way, Julie and I have a Bose sound system hooked up to our TV at home and it does sound great. I hope that helps the lawyers relax!)

Think about what that statement means at our church. At Country Club Christian Church you'll hear about God's universal love, the forgiveness of God for everyone, and you'll hear an open invitation to participate in a grace-filled way of life. At the communion table you'll discover that all are invited to share in the supper of our Lord. When we say all, we mean, quite simply, all.

There is a lot that you won't hear, too. Like Jesus, we will never call anyone a sinner. Oh, to be sure, we won't be afraid to confront our faults and failures but never will we label one of God's children with that terrible name. Here we will never talk about eternal punishment as a possibility for any nor will we use the fear of such a thing as a motivational tool to get you to give your heart to God. We won't single out people because of their sexual orientation nor will we tell you how to dress for worship or anything else.

You will hear that we trust in God as revealed in the life and teachings of Jesus. You will not hear anything about judgmentalism. You'll never hear about retribution for sin, only the reconciliation that God desires to create for everyone.

Do our church a favor and get this word out on the streets wherever you are!

Grace and peace to you,

## 2012 Stewardship Campaign

We are still collecting your Pledge Cards for the 2012-2013 Strengthen our Foundation Stewardship Campaign. If you have not yet turned in your card, please drop it in the offering tray on Sunday or bring it to the church office at your convenience. Beginning in June, follow-up calls will be made to households which have not yet turned in pledge cards.

## Worship with us!

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

**May 27**

The Future Is Here  
*Romans 8:22-27*

**June 3**

The Voice  
*Psalms 29*

**June 10**

Getting Carried Away  
*Mark 3:19b-30*

**June 17**

Just A Church  
*Mark 4:26-34*

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# Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

## Taste and Read

Rev. Steve Mason will facilitate Taste and Read, a small group meeting Thursdays from 10:00-11:30 a.m. in Room 201. The group will read and discuss *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein. This canine-centered book will be the focus of the five weekly sessions that start May 31 and end June 28. Contact Steve at [stevem@cccckc.org](mailto:stevem@cccckc.org) to RSVP and for details. This dog-lover's book can be found in The Well Book and Gift Store on the ground level. All are welcome.

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## Virginia Reed Food Drive on June 17

On Sun., June 17, 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."

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## 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, Foos' 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.

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## Haiti Mission Trip

If you are interested in going on the mission trip to Haiti Nov. 1-7, contact Julia Walker, [juya213@yahoo.com](mailto:juya213@yahoo.com), for more information. A \$100 deposit will hold your spot for the trip.

## 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](mailto:carlaa@cccckc.org) or [janef@cccckc.org](mailto:janef@cccckc.org). A brochure is available on the website at [www.cccckc.org](http://www.cccckc.org).

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## The Well Book Corner

Do you need books for your children or grandchildren? Do you need a Bible to use in your Bible study? Would you like to read a book mentioned in a sermon or a minister's column in *The Christian*? Then visit The Well, our book and gift store on the ground floor of the church.



The Well also features gifts for everyone, including wonderful Fair Trade items from around the world. Shoppers will find jewelry, scarves, CDs and handmade items from Nicaragua. The proceeds go to Week of Compassion, which provides emergency disaster relief to peoples around the world.

Or you can shop at home through Amazon to benefit Week of Compassion. If you use the Amazon search function on The Well's web page, a percentage of the purchase price is directed to Week of Compassion. Go to [www.cccckc.org](http://www.cccckc.org) and click The Well in the top right-hand corner, then follow the instructions.



The Well is open on Sunday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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## Vases Needed

If you have spare vases that you don't need, please donate them to the Flower Committee. Please leave your donations in the Social Hall kitchen.



## Thoughtful Gifts

by Lisa McCleish, Director of Early Childhood Programs



One of my favorite things to do with children is “get the facts”; I inevitably learn something new.

The year my class wrote a Thanksgiving cookbook, I learned that you should buy a turkey at Kmart, cook for a long time and turn the oven to three or something. At the back to school meeting, I always assured the parents I would only believe 50 percent of what the children told me because they really didn't look like they were 75 years old (as announced by their child during group time).

As they do every year, the teachers and children at Country Club Christian Church made wonderfully thoughtful and creative gifts for Mother's Day. Some of the older classes made stepping stones, another class made thumb-print necklaces, and even our youngest babies painted masterpieces and framed them.

It reminded me of the year my class wrote a book, for Mother's Day entitled *Gifts for Mom*. The children were to think of what they could give their mom that she would want more than anything in the world. After drawing the picture, I would write the words underneath.

There were pictures of flowers, money, a new house, all drawn with careful precision since this was a gift. Everyone was finished except Jimmy; he lingered over his picture as the other children cleaned up. Finally he brought up a picture of—a large green frog!

Without asking even one question, I immediately tried to convince Jimmy that he should draw something else. But there was no amount of cajoling that would change his mind. Deciding I was losing the battle, I finally asked Jimmy why he drew a frog for his mom. “Well, Miss Lisa, my mom really, REALLY hates flies so I want to give her a frog that will eat flies.”

Flowers, money and a new house are really nice gifts that any mother would be thrilled to get. But a large green frog that eats flies, now that is a really thoughtful gift.

*Lisa*

## Infant Dedications



Carson Aiden O'Laughlin with his parents Mitchell and Heather O'Laughlin



Keegan Michael O'Hara with his parents Ryan and Leslie O'Hara

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## Community Camp Kansas City Happening in June

### Wednesday evenings in June

Mark your calendar 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!



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## Infant Dedications Will Be June 17

We will welcome babies and young children into our congregation through special recognition during the 11:00 a.m. worship service on Sun., June 17. Families interested in having an infant dedicated can contact Heather Rotter at [heatherr@cccckc.org](mailto:heatherr@cccckc.org) or 816-333-4917 for full details.

## Annual More<sup>2</sup> Imagine! Banquet is June 14

MORE<sup>2</sup>, the Metro Organization for Racial and Economic Equity, will celebrate with its annual Imagine! Banquet on Thur., June 14, at 6:00 p.m. at the Reardon Civic Center. Imagine! is an opportunity to acknowledge the successes of the past year and look into the future. Tickets to the banquet are \$60.00 each. Contact Bev Johnson at 913-942-3248 or Mary Margaret House at 816-333-4917 for information.

This year the theme is Imagine: Bringing the Fire of our Faith to the Table. Rev. Johnny Ray Youngblood, senior pastor at Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church in Brooklyn, New York, will be speaker. Rev. Youngblood is founder of Brooklyn Congregations Together and the Brooklyn Chapter of SCLC. He has been recognized as one of the 10 most influential New Yorkers.

Country Club Christian Church was an initiating member when MORE<sup>2</sup> was established as a regional equity organization.

## Upcoming Youth Events

### Youth Group

**6:00-8:00 p.m.**

**Sun., May 27** – No Youth Group

**Sun., June 3** – 6:00-8:00 p.m., Game Night

**Sun., June 10** – Chi Rho To Schlitterbahn Water Park. We will leave church at noon.

**Fri., June 8** – CYF Movie Night, watch for details.

**Wed., June 20-Thurs., June 21** – CYF Lock-In. Watch for details.

### 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 organizations that have helped us serve the hungry. Cost is \$350. RSVP to Justin at [justinz@cccckc.org](mailto: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](mailto:justinz@cccckc.org) ASAP.

### 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](http://www.cccckc.org)).



## What We Do Is What We Believe

by Justin Zeigler, Minister to Youth



I love what I do for a living, and I love this congregation. As Christians, sometimes we get a bad name. We are often seen as judgmental, holier than thou folk who just want to sit and wait for God to take us to heaven. This is why when new friends or strangers find out what I do for a living I often get “so...what do you all believe?” I translate this as “What is the theology of your congregation, and are you judging me right now?” The following is the best answer that I’ve been able to come up with.

We believe that all children deserve to experience joy, so we go to the Salvation Army children’s shelter and play games and bring treats so they can have a night of fun.

We believe that people deserve health care no matter where they live, so we go to Nicaragua and bring doctors and nurses. We believe that all people are loved by God, so we don’t exclude people who happen to be gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender from leadership or membership. We believe that a message of love and grace can actually change the world...so we invite as many people as possible to worship and other gatherings to hear and live it out.

We believe that trusting in God is more important than having the “right theology” so we challenge one another to do so when new members join. We believe that the beauty of God can be revealed by art so we work to maintain the architecture of our inspiring building and the quality of the organ that plays beautiful music.

We believe that God can be worshiped with our minds, so we study and read and talk and think. We believe that God can be worshiped with our hearts, so we pray and cry and gather to support one another. We believe that God can be worshipped with our bodies, so we hug and hike and sing.

We believe that God hasn’t stopped leading and guiding us yet, so we dream and strive to be creative. Above all the things that I can say about what our congregation believes is that we are to “love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.” (1John 4: 7-8) Mother Teresa once said “Too many words. Just let them see what we do.”

So when someone asks you what our church “believes,” share with them what we do. Invite them to experience what we do. Live out what we do. In this way they will know that we trust in a God that is love.

## Children and Families Family Mission Trip to Joplin in June

Families with children in elementary school or older are invited to participate in the Family Mission Trip to help in Joplin Thur., June 7–Sun., June 10. We will be working and staying in the Joplin area to help continue the recovery and rebuild. 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](mailto:catherinesc@cccckc.org).

## 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). Registration forms for participants and volunteers are online at [www.cccckc.org](http://www.cccckc.org) or on the second floor in the Children’s Wing.

## Summer Outreach

Don’t miss out! Join us in helping feed those in need through volunteering at Harvesters this summer. Kids ages 6 through 5th grade are welcome.

Fri., June 15, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Sat., July 14, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Spots are limited, so RSVP soon to Karla Herrington at [karlah@cccckc.org](mailto:karlah@cccckc.org).

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Kansas City, MO 64113

Return Service Requested

## PROGRAM STAFF

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

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# Our Church Family

## Sympathy

BONNIE L. VESKERA passed away May 12. She is survived by three children, Nancy Veskerna, Connie Veskerna and Bob Veskerna. Services were May 15 in Combs Chapel, Rev. Chuck Murphy officiating.

GERTRUDE DIETZ passed away Apr. 22. Services were in Great Bend, KS. She was the mother of Kay Moffat.

REGGIE ROZELLE passed away May 18. He is survived by a son, B. Lee Rozell. Services were May 24 at White Chapel Funeral Home, Gladstone, Mo.

ANNE MARTY AIKIN passed away May 20. She is the sister of Bob Marty. Services were May 24 at Village Presbyterian Church.

## Memorials

### Bonnie Veskerna

Barbara Plank Gillen  
John & Erma Hess  
Dave & Karen Stowe  
Don & Janice Stowe  
Alice Stowe  
Margaret Salisbury  
A. McClure  
Cutler Repaving, Inc  
The Kerns Family

### Richard Cray, Jr

John & Erma Hess

### Gertrude Dietz

Randy & Cindy Irey

### Glenda Steinle

John & Erma Hess