



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.*

Festival Sunday • August 22 90th Anniversary Party on the Parkway

Celebrate nine
decades of min-
istry on
Festival Sunday,
Aug. 22 with
our 90th
Anniversary Party on the Parkway!



Worship at 9:00, 10:00 or 11:00 a.m.

- ◆ Welcome Dr. R. Glen Miles back to the pulpit after his sabbatical as he begins a sermon series entitled *Founded in Faith, Growing in Grace* with the sermon *If These Walls Could Talk*.
- ◆ Commemorative photos of the congregation will be taken during the opening hymn at each worship service. Don't miss your chance to be featured in these historic photos. Are you a 25-, 50- or 75-year member? A lifetime member? Have your photo taken with your contemporaries.
- ◆ Help us prepare the 90th Anniversary Time Capsule. Write a prayer wish during any of the worship services and drop



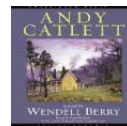
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Welcome Dr. Sharon Watkins

The Reverend Dr. Sharon E. Watkins, General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), is preaching at the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. worship services on Sun., July 25. Dr. Watkins has an extensive background of service both in this country and abroad, serving as a missionary in the Congo, and visiting several Middle East countries, focusing specifically on the plight of Iraqi refugees. At the invitation of then President-Elect Barack Obama, Dr. Watkins preached at the National Prayer Service in Washington, DC on Jan. 21, 2009, the day after his inauguration.



Inside This Issue



**Book by Book Small
Group Sign Ups Begin
August 8**

**Grace at Work 2010
Coming September 18**



**Chi Rho Mission Trip
Report and Photos**



BUILDING COMMUNITY BOOK *by* BOOK

In preparation for Wendell Berry's visit on September 23 to talk about his novel, *Andy Catlett: Early Travels*, a number of discussion groups have been scheduled. The book is short and will be enjoyable reading for youth as well as adults. Anyone old enough to read the book is welcome to sign up for a group. It's easy to participate—just sign up for one of the groups offered below, read the book and attend. No tests or grades—just fellowship and good discussion!



You can sign up for a discussion group in the Parlor on Aug. 8, 15 and 22 or by email to marymargareth@cccckc.org.

Purchase your copy of *Andy Catlett: Early Travels* in The Well for \$12. Proceeds benefit disaster relief through Week of Compassion.

Discussion groups will meet in homes unless otherwise noted. Some will include light meals. Contact the hosts for specifics or call 816-333-4917.

- ◆ Betsy Wilson, Aug. 26, 7:00 p.m. Wine and cheese.
- ◆ Carla Aday and Dave Ehman, Aug. 28, 6:30 p.m. Dinner.
- ◆ Patty and Phil Love, Sept. 1, 7:00 p.m. Wine and cheese.
- ◆ Marie and David Hunter, Sept. 3, 7:00 p.m. Beer and wine, guests bring appetizer.
- ◆ Susie and David Diebold, Sept. 5, 6:00 p.m. Light dinner.
- ◆ Cindy and Randy Irely, Sept. 7, 7:00 p.m. Coffee and dessert.
- ◆ Kathryn and Eric Holtze, Sept. 11, 6:00 p.m. Supper.
- ◆ Tepríng and Glenn Crocker, Sept. 12, 5:00 p.m. Light supper (Children over 3 welcome to come play).
- ◆ Nancy and Greg Lear, Sept. 12, 6:30 p.m. Wine and cheese.
- ◆ Cheryl Commerford, Sept. 14, 10:00 a.m. Brunch.
- ◆ Linda Nixon, Sept. 16, 2:00 p.m. High tea.
- ◆ Susan and Alan Garner, Sept. 16, 7:00 p.m. Wine and appetizers.
- ◆ Andrea Bough and Marcia Berry, Sept. 16, 7:00 p.m. Dessert and drinks.
- ◆ Ginger Cline and Steve Nix, Sept. 16, 7:00 p.m. Dessert and drinks.
- ◆ Shelley and John Trewolla, Sept. 19, 3:00 p.m. Light refreshments.
- ◆ Sandy and Bart Finney, Sept. 19, 5:00 p.m. Appetizers and drinks.
- ◆ Bonnie and Doug Dee, Sept. 19, 6:00 p.m. Light dinner.
- ◆ Lesley Holt, Sept. 21, 2:00 p.m. Tea and cookies.

90th Anniversary

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it in the offering tray. Cards will be enclosed in the capsule, which will be on display in the Library.

- ◆ The Children's Choir, Fellowship Singers (grades 6-12) and Celebration Singers will sing during the 9:00 a.m. worship service.
- ◆ The Kansas City Brass will be our special guests at 11:00 a.m.
- ◆ Children entering 3rd grade in the fall of 2010 will be presented with their own Bible at the 11:00 a.m. worship service.
- ◆ Children and Youth will advance to the next Sunday School grade level.

9:00 a.m.-Noon

- ◆ Before or after you go to worship and Sunday School, browse historical displays featuring church artifacts and fun facts about the church's 90 years in Kansas City.
- ◆ Enjoy a continental breakfast and coffee.

Party on the Parkway: Noon-2:00 p.m.

- ◆ Fun, food and festivities for all!
- ◆ 5 Star Jazz band will play old favorites beginning at 12:15 on the front lawn, featuring favorites from the 1920s.
- ◆ Picnic lunch served. (\$5 per person, maximum \$20 per family. Guests and visitors complimentary.)
- ◆ Enjoy games such as croquet, bean bag toss, and cake walk. Inflatable Bounce House and games for smaller children.
- ◆ Vintage cars on display.
- ◆ Guided tour of the Sanctuary at 1:00 p.m.
- ◆ Fancy 1920s-style hat contest.





While Glen is on sabbatical this summer, this column will feature guest columns from some of Glen's colleagues in ministry from across the country. This issue features Howard W. Roberts, Senior Minister, Glenview Community Church, Glenview, IL.

A Pilgrim's Progress

by Howard W. Roberts



There may be no more cherished human arrangement than the family. Some would die for their families or even kill for their families. In many places, families become clans and to offend a member of an extended family is to offend the whole clan. People will come to the defense of their family no matter what the circumstances or evidence. The feud through the generations of the Hatfields and the McCoys in Kentucky may have become legendary, but there is a residue of that attitude in many families. "Family values" is a popular sound bite.

While family relationships are significant in our lives and contribute greatly to who we are, there is tendency in our culture to idolize family, at least what is perceived as the most prevalent constellation of family. The tendency of culture and congregations has been to define family as a father, a mother, and one and a half children. This definition omits people who have divorced. It omits blended families, single parent families, singles, committed partners, and friends who are mutually supportive and closer than any blood relatives ever thought of being. This approach omits seeing communal living as family. It does not consider significant others and unmarried people who live under the same roof as family. A much better and more expansive definition of family is: the circle of people who love you.

The church often is praised as helping the family. Churches have "Family Night Suppers" and build "Family Life Centers." Congregations often seek to involve more people by advertising that they are a "Family Church." As we learn more about family life and hear from people whose family experiences have been a mixture of joy and pain, achievement and struggle, we discover that family is not only a source of our greatest gifts, but also of our greatest damage.

We have a tendency to expect and want the family to do everything for us, to bear too much moral and spiritual weight and to be all things to us. Families crack under the strain. Part of the reason for the family cracking is that we have too narrow of a definition of family. The culture and the church often are cohorts in "crime" as they load up the nuclear family with expectations that this nucleus of three or four or five people is to be everything and provide everything that those within the nuclear family need. If we ever knew, we have forgotten how ambiguous the early church was about family. We have sought to make heaven over in our image and sing "may the circle be unbroken," forgetting that for Jesus the whole structure of relationship with God is quite different from our understanding of family. Jesus said all are brothers and sisters to each other because are all created by God. This approach cuts across all

bloodlines and suggests faith is thicker than blood or water.

It is a mistake to describe a congregation as "church family" because it sets people up to expect the church to do for them everything their family did or did not do for them. The term "faith community" is much more appropriate and accurate. It is our faith in God that we hold in common as a congregation rather than a common definition of family. Let the church be a counter cultural movement when it comes to family. Let the church help parents reassure their children that all the hopes, dreams, and aspirations the parents have are not resting on the child. The church can help adult, youth, and children recognize that the community of faith is a resource center for all of our lives and there are people in the church who are related to us by faith but not by blood who will help guard and guide us through life.

Howard

Worship with us!

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

July 25

Dr. Sharon Watkins, General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Justin Zeigler at 10:00 a.m.

Aug. 1

Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn preaching at 9:00, 10:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Aug. 8

Dr. Gene Brice preaching at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

"Who Counted the Fish?"

John 21:4-11

Mr. Justin Zeigler at 10:00 a.m.

Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

Pathways to Learning in July Focuses on Being Servants in a Modern World



Join us July 25 for the last of a three-part series on being servants in a modern world. The Reverends Jon and Dawn Barnes, our missionaries in South Africa will talk about the new definition of global missions and share updates on our partnership from 9:55 to 10:55 a.m. in the Social Hall.



Dawn Barnes



Jon Barnes

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.

Healing and Wholeness Prayer Service on August 3

Please join us for a peaceful time of song, scripture and prayer at 7:30 p.m. on Tues., Aug. 3, 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.

New Orleans Mission Trip Information Meeting on August 15

If you are interested in participating in the sixth trip to Metarie, LA, to help with the rebuilding in hurricane-decimated areas, plan to attend an informational meeting on Sun., Aug. 15, at 12:15 p.m. in Rm. 201. An overview of the trip and the cost associated with it will be discussed. The trip scheduled for Oct. 24-30 will be led by Kelley Quinn. For more information, contact Kelley at elmokitty@everestkc.net.

Food Drive on August 22

On Sun., Aug. 22, 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. Food items needed include peanut butter, cereal, rice, pasta, and canned fruits, vegetables and soups. We also purchase food in case lots for the pantries, so cash donations are welcome. Please mark your donation "Food Drive."

Teen Years Series Empowers Parents to Nurture Sacred Lives

The Outlook Sunday School class will host a three-part series on The Teen Years beginning August 29 from 9:55 – 10:55 am. All parents of teens are invited to participate and members are encouraged to invite friends in the wider community to take advantage of the wisdom and insight offered by dynamic speakers who bring practical advice, professional expertise and a love of teenagers to this important dialogue. Check the church website for speakers and topics.

Save the Date for the Tall Oaks Gala

The annual Tall Oaks Gala will be held on Sat., Oct. 8 at the Intercontinental Hotel on the Country Club Plaza. Fellowship and silent auction begin at 6:00 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:45 p.m. Cost is \$85/person or \$850 to host a table of 10. For more information please contact Vicki or Tim Lopatofsky at vk327@sbcglobal.net.



Home

by Lara Schopp, Director of Communications



I just traveled to my hometown, Macon, MO, to visit my childhood best friend, who makes her annual summer pilgrimage back home from Phoenix to visit her father, who still lives there.

Going “home” is always bittersweet. I lived 18 years plus two summers of my life in that tiny town, but no longer have family there. My father is deceased, my mother moved to Kansas City nearly eight years ago, and my brother and his family are here too.

But Macon holds dear memories...of my beloved grandparents, who were an adoring and comforting everyday presence in my childhood. Of my father, who shed the intimidation of his Highway Patrol uniform to perform in local theatre productions or to sing in church or at friends’ weddings. Of hours spent in a lifeguard chair or cheering the football team to victory. Of summer visits to friends’ cabin on a tiny nearby lake, and friendships that endure yet today.

And I have prominent and significant memories of my church, the First Christian Church of Macon, a Disciples of Christ congregation. Church was always a part of our lives. I sang in the children’s choir, raced off the school bus each Wednesday to be the first at our version of Club Kids, went to Sunday School, on retreat trips, lit candles, led worship.

Recently, I ran into an old friend, Scott, who was part of my CYF youth group. His family didn’t attend our church, but he’d started coming with a friend and just kept coming back. He told me how meaningful and memorable the church experiences had been to him. We even broke into an old skit we’d once done in worship, the theological significance of which we couldn’t recall, but it gave us a good laugh.

As this church’s Director of Communications, I spend a lot of time thinking of the church with a technical business focus. Are we reaching target markets? What are our strategic messages? How do we market to external audiences with reduced resources? How can we optimize social media? Is anyone reading the newsletter? Do I have a budget for that? It’s easy to get lost in the work.

But my conversation with Scott reminded that more important than strategies and marketing is the way we’re touched by the church’s intangibles. Comfort, family, community, laughter.

Home.

Lara

Save the Date for Grace At Work 2010

The third annual Grace at Work is the perfect opportunity to gear up for the fall season and serve others! On Sat., Sept. 19, Country Club Christian will hold its third half-day fun-filled volunteer event open to all ages and abilities.



Through Grace at Work, volunteers offer a helping hand and support to partner agencies. There are a broad range of volunteer opportunities to choose from in the Kansas City area, including our own Country Club Christian Church!

Volunteer opportunities range from sorting food donations at Harvesters to doing yard work for older adults through the Shepherd’s Center. These are just two options out of many!

No matter what your age or skill level, you can help us support these worthy organizations and create visible change in our community.

For more information please contact Lauren Weinhold at laurenw@cccckc.org or Stacey Roske at staceyroske@gmail.com.

Elder and Deacon Retreat

All Elders and Deacons are invited to the Elder and Deacon Retreat on Sat., Aug. 28 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Led by Dr. Glen Miles, this morning of reflection and discussion will help Elders and Deacons move into the program year with purpose and inspiration.

Chi Rho Mission Trip Full of Service and Fun

From July 11-17, a group of eight middle school youth and three adults traveled to be in mission with the people of Indianapolis and Lebanon, IN. The mission team stayed and worked with Oikos Center for Action located in Lebanon, outside of Indianapolis. They worked on a county home for adults with mental and emotional challenges doing basic upkeep and helping construct recreation rooms for the residents, helped rehab a house of a family in need, and toured the Disciples of Christ headquarters, meeting people who work nationally with the denomination.



Members of the Chi Rho mission team: Front row: Jackson Berry, Kathy McDandel (sponsor), Kellin Martiny, Maggie Bowen. Second Row: Ross Commerford, Zöe Ziegenhorn. Third Row: Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn, Parker Hoffman, Aidan Alemifar, Connor Ehman, Justin Zeigler

Justin Zeigler, Director of Middle School Ministries, said “I am just proud all around. I’m proud of our congregation for being able to support these youth, proud of our youth and their hard work and openness to share, and proud to be a part of this community.”

The group thanks the congregation for their prayers and thoughts during their mission trip.

On the right, Zöe Ziegenhorn, Justin Zeigler, Parker Hoffman, Aidan Alemifar clear out a barn to make into a recreation room.



Race to Grace 2010

Save the date – Sept. 10-11

Mark your calendars for the annual Race to Grace for Chi Rho and CYF youth. This year we will be joined by other Disciples of Christ youth groups as we race around the city and experience Kansas City through different eyes with a variety of challenges. Bring your friends as we gather on Friday night and wake up for the race on Saturday morning, with the race finish line at a local park for a cookout and celebration. This year promises to be a large and exciting event. Contact Justin, justinz@cccckc.org, or Brandon, brandonw@cccckc.org, for more information.



Race to Grace 2009

July Collection Connection School Supplies for “Project Yes!”

According to the National Retail Federation, the average family spends approximately \$98 on school supplies for every school-aged child. For a family already struggling financially, preparing children for the school year can be a large financial burden. This month we are collecting school supplies for the Don Bosco “Project Yes” program.

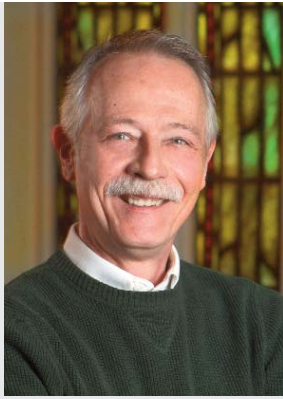
While all school supplies are needed, “Project Yes!” typically runs low on the following items: kindergarten writing tablets, beginner pencils, facial tissue, index notecards, highlighters, protractors, binders, loose-leaf paper, backpacks, and pencil boxes.

Please place your donations in the tubs in the Parlor. With your help, Don Bosco will ensure that the community’s youth are prepared for the upcoming school year.



Can We Be Both Mary and Martha?

by David Diebold, Minister of Music



Earlier this week, the Program Staff sat and discussed Carla's preaching scripture for July 18: the story of Mary and Martha. After Jesus arrived, Martha complained that she was doing all of the work preparing the meal, while Mary simply sat at Jesus' feet and conversed with him. Jesus admonished Martha that Mary had chosen the better part of life. In our conversation, we all agreed that it was very difficult to be Mary, the one who sat at Jesus' feet, listening. It's doubly hard today when our lives cry out to be Martha, always doing. I was reminded during that conversation of someone I

met some years ago who truly was both Mary and Martha.

While visiting family in the Netherlands, Susie and I were invited to dinner at the home of our Dutch relatives.

When we arrived at her apartment, we found that Miese had spent the entire day preparing a wonderful meal for us. The eight of us savored the wonderful food, good wine, and great conversation. The table talk lasted well into the late evening hours.

When it was time for us to leave, each, as dutiful guests picked up our plates to move them to the sink. Miese protested loudly: "No, no, no. I will do it!" She would not even let us do the dishes before we left. Finding her response curious, we had to ask why.

"You see," she explained, "after I prepared the meal, and we had such a wonderful evening, I find that I need to do it myself to remember." Remember? "Yes," she explained. "During the time it takes to clear the table, I remember. Every fork, or plate, or glass that I wash, I remember. I am quiet, as if meditating with God, remembering what we savored the night before. I remember each of you and your faces. I remember our conversation. Most importantly, I remember that what we had in those fleeting hours was one of the most important things about life." In a few short sentences, she had reminded us that we can find that balance between the constant need to do and the need to savor life's precious times.

It's hard today to be both Mary and Martha. But, in the hustle and bustle of our lives, I can't help but wonder if we ought to spend more time striving, like Miese, to be like Mary and take time to savor the gift that is so fleeting for all of us.

David

Children and Families

The Gospel According to Dr. Seuss

Our July Sunday School for children having completed 1st–4th grades focuses on stories from Dr. Seuss. The Grinch, Horton and more help us explore biblical themes of God's love and grace. We hear or see the story, have discussions and a short activity during our regular Sunday School time, 9:55-10:55 a.m. each Sunday in July. We are meeting in Sacred Story Studio (Room 212) in the children's wing on the second floor. (Children who have completed 5th grade are meeting with Chi-Rho in Room 202 for Sunday School.)

Third Grade Bible Presentation

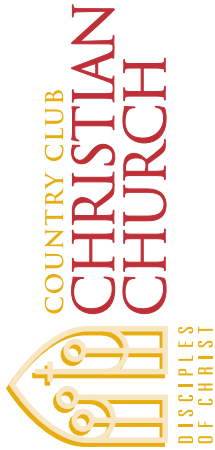
Children entering 3rd grade in the fall of 2010 will be presented with their own Bible on Festival Sunday, Aug. 22 at the 11:00 a.m. worship service. There are two Bible covers to select from – a hard back blue/green or soft cover red. Third graders can examine samples of each on the second floor entrance to the children's wing. Children entering third grade should have received information to be completed and submitted.

Questions? Contact Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn at catherinesc@cccckc.org.

VBS: Rainforest Adventure

It is finally here – our week-long Vacation Bible School for children 4years old through 5th grade. We have assembled a great group of volunteers to lead different sessions and groups – many thanks to all those who are lending their time and talents! Tye-dying shirts; making rainsticks; hearing stories Jesus told; learning from our missionaries in South Africa, Dawn and Jon Barnes; playing games and making new friends – we are busy this week! We look forward to sharing some of the energy and music from our Rainforest Adventure on worship Sun., Aug. 1 at the 11:00 a.m. service!

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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 for Congregational
Care

Ms. Karla Herrington
Director of Children's
Ministries

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

Ms. Marilyn Wimer
Director of
Administrative Services

Mr. Brandon Winstead
Director of High School
Ministries

Mr. Justin Zeigler
Director of Middle School
Ministries

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Our Church Family

Sympathy

RUTH RYNDERS MASON passed away July 14.
She is the mother of Cindy Mason Irely. Services were
July 18 in Lenexa.

Shopping at The Well

Also Shop Amazon.com through The Well

Have you visited The Well Books and Gifts store recently? If not, you're missing out on lots of unique gift items and books. Purchases at The Well directly benefit Week of

Compassion, which provides emergency disaster relief to individuals around the world. Use The Well's page on the church's web site, www.cccckc.org under the Stay Informed tab, to do your shopping at ama-

zon.com and a percentage of the purchase price is directed to our Outreach projects. The Well is on the ground floor of the church and is open on Sunday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

