



DISCIPLES  
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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.*

## Interim Minister of Congregational Care Hired

By Greg Lear, former chair of the Personnel Committee

The Personnel Committee is pleased to announce that Dr. Charles (Chuck) Rolan has accepted our call as Interim Minister for Congregational Care.



He will begin his two-year position with Country Club Christian on Oct. 1, filling the vacancy created by Dr. George Gordon's retirement. The Oct. 1 start date will give Chuck the opportunity to "shadow" George for a month before George retires at the end of October.

The Search Committee, headed by Shirley Hansell, feels fortunate to have found someone

with the extensive knowledge and experience that Chuck brings to our congregation. Since 2004, he has been the senior minister at First Christian Church in Murray, KY. Prior to that, he served three years as senior minister at First Christian Church in Griffin, GA, and six years as chaplain for hospices in the Atlanta area. In addition to his experience, Chuck has had specific training in the intentional interim ministry.

With the experience and training he brings, Chuck will be invaluable to the congregation as we transition from the legacy of George's ministry to a new, permanent Minister for Congregational Care in 2010.

## Prayer Retreat with Dr. Gordon Sept. 19-20

Join Dr. George Gordon and others from our congregation at Conception Abbey in Conception, MO, for a prayer retreat on Sept. 19-20.

Dr. Gordon will lead a short session on Friday from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. and several sessions on Saturday with a 4:00 p.m. departure. During these Friday evening and Saturday hours, we will discuss and experience approaches to prayer and meditation that can be included in our daily lives as interludes of spiritual peace and refreshment.

Participants are encouraged to wear comfortable

clothing that will allow for a few gentle stretching and movement exercises and for quiet walks around the pastoral grounds of the abbey. It will also be helpful for each person to bring his or her favorite Bible and journaling or note-taking pad.

It will not be necessary to study prior to the retreat, but if one should wish to read in the area of centering prayer and meditation, the following books may be found helpful: *Centering Prayer and Inner Awakening* by Cynthia Bourgeault or *Sidhana: A Way to God* by Anthony de Mello.



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## Visitor Information Seminar Sept. 13

Are you in search of a church home where you and your family can grow closer to God, closer to one another and closer to the community? Are you curious about just what it means to be a Disciple? Are you interested in learning more about the multitude of programs, classes and services that Country Club Christian Church has to offer?

If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, we invite you to the Visitor Information Seminar on Sat., Sept. 13. Hosted in the Youth Center (Rm. 205) from 8:45 a.m. to noon, the Visitor Information Seminar is your opportunity to enjoy breakfast and lunch and meet some of the church’s lay leaders. Our ministers will be on hand to talk about the church’s ministries and how you can get involved.

RSVP to Lauren Weinhold, Director of Church Growth, at 816-333-4917 or [laurenw@cccckc.org](mailto:laurenw@cccckc.org).

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### Bring Your Antiques to S.P.I.C.E.

**Wed., Sept. 17, 10:00 a.m.**

In September, S.P.I.C.E. (Society for the Preservation of Interesting and Creative Eldership) presents its own version of the popular PBS show, “The Antiques Road Show.” Jason Roske, owner of KC Auction Company, and several of his associates and other antique experts from the congregation will be on hand to answer questions about the history and possible value of the antiques that we bring for them to examine. Dr. George Gordon is planning to bring a hand-pumped Cadillac vacuum cleaner and several other items from his family home in Lexington, MO. Please bring items from any category of antiques (excluding spouses). They will all be interesting for the others to see and learn about.

The experts will be on hand at 10:00 a.m. on Wed., Sept. 17 to look over your unique possessions so please come early. At 11:00 a.m., for our program, we will discuss interesting aspects such as history and construction of some (i.e. as many as time allows) of the most fascinating ones. We hope that it will be a fun day for all.

As usual, blood pressure checks will be available at 10:00 a.m. The formal program will be at 11:00 a.m. followed by lunch (\$7.00) at noon. Invite friends and make your reservation with Mary Margaret at 816-333-4917 or [marymargareta@cccckc.org](mailto:marymargareta@cccckc.org) by noon on Mon., Sept. 15.

### Old Fashioned Picnic

**Sept. 28 at 11:30 a.m., Social Hall**

Mark your calendar to join your church friends for an old-fashioned fellowship opportunity on Sun. Sept. 28, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Social Hall. The main dish will be provided. Bring a salad or dessert to share and enjoy the chance to catch up with old friends and make new ones. If you don’t cook, bring canned goods to donate to a local food bank.

### Ladies Who Lunch

**Tues., Sept. 16, noon – 1:00 pm**

All women of the church are invited to a luncheon on Tues., Sept. 16 to meet and get to know our two newest missionaries to Haiti and enjoy a 20-minute program.

In October 2007, the Country Club Christian Church Outreach Council approved a commitment to fund \$30,000 over three years in support of Patrick Bentrout, who is working with the National Spiritual Council of Churches in Haiti (CONASPEH). Patrick’s primary responsibilities will have to do with CONASPEH’s programs in theological education. His wife, Kim, will work with CONASPEH’s health program. They will depart for Haiti in late October.

To reserve a seat at the luncheon, contact Mary Margaret at 816-333-4917 or [marymargareta@cccckc.org](mailto:marymargareta@cccckc.org), or sign up in the Parlor on Sunday morning, by Sept. 10. Cost is \$5.00 per person.



## A Kansas Farm Boy

By Dr. R. Glen Miles



I was ordained 20 years ago. On that day there were many mentors, friends and family members who participated in the service. My great friend, Doug Dornhecker, delivered a brilliant sermon, one that I read and reread at least once a year. Dick Wing, my mentor and one of the finest preachers in America, was inspiring as he invited us to the largest table in the world, the Lord's Table, where no one is turned away. My mother, a beautifully voiced contralto, sang a solo. My father, the single most influential man in my life, gave the ordination prayer. The

members and leaders of the First Christian Church of Hanford, CA were the warm and gracious hosts.

There was one man, though, whose simple word continues to be the finest advice I have ever received on ministry. This man grew up on a farm in southeastern Kansas. In his early teens he helped to run the farm while also attending high school and playing every sport offered. He was unable to afford to pay the tuition for college but his solid Midwestern values – you know, things like being kind, fair, courteous and responsible – those standards helped him carve out a very successful business career.

At the reception following the service this 75-year-old former Kansas farm boy said to me, “There is only one thing you need to remember in your ministry: love the people God sends you to serve. Whether you are in a large congregation or a small country chapel, love the people God places in your care and you will be a success in the eyes of God.”

That man, by the way, was my grandfather, Robert Small. I am named after him. The R in my name is for “Robert.” Every time I sign my name I'm reminded of him and his simple yet profound advice.

The author of the letter to the church in Ephesus gave similar help. He elaborated a little more than my grandpa. The old Bible author wrote:

*Put away bitterness and wrath and slander and malice.  
Be kind, tenderhearted and forgiving.  
Be imitators of God.  
Live in love.*

Simple, yet profound.

Grace and Peace to you,

## September Sermon Series

### The Politics of Jesus:

***What Would Jesus Have Us Do in the USA Today?***

Who would Jesus vote for is a dangerous question. Why? Because Jesus transcends our political differences. When we look to the politics of Jesus, we'll find one who calls for justice and peace while demanding that love is foundational to all that we do. Join us each Sunday in September as Dr. R. Glen Miles presents this timely sermon series.

## Worship with us!

**at 8:00, 9:00, 10:00  
and 11:00 a.m.  
Dr. R. Glen Miles**

**Aug. 31**  
Love from the Center  
*Romans 12:9-21*  
8:00 a.m.

You're Not in The Driver's Seat  
*Matthew 16:21-28*  
9:00, 10:00, 11:00 a.m.

**Sept. Sermon Series  
The Politics of Jesus**

What Would Jesus Have Us  
Do in the USA Today?  
Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28

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# Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

## YaWhose

### Young Adults [age 22-35] Welcoming Hearts Open to Spiritual Exploration

This group has begun a new Sunday morning schedule and format meeting weekly from 9:55 to 10:55 a.m., Rm. 304. Stop by for a presentation and discussion of faith issues in our everyday lives. On the first Sunday of the month, Crossroads and YaWhose will meet together for a lesson in the Pine Room (Rm. 10).

**Aug. 31** – Bible Trivia

**Sept. 7** – Combine with Crossroads Class in Rm. 10 – Our Lives at a Crossroads at the Table of God, taught by Dr. Robert Martin, St. Paul School of Theology.

**Sept. 14** – Going Green – Church member Fritz Zschiezschmann will discuss how his international business embraced the needs of the environment and steps our church is taking to respect and nurture the environment.

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## Crossroads

Ages 35-50. We each face many different crossroads in our lives. This class offers spiritual guidance, educational insights and the support of fellow travelers on the journey. Meets every Sunday in the Pine Room (Rm. 10) from 9:55 to 10:55 a.m.

**Aug. 31** – *Beyond Theology* video – “Church and State at a Crossroads.”

**Sept. 7** – Combine with YaWhose Class in Rm. 10 – Our Lives at a Crossroads at the Table of God, taught by Dr. Robert Martin, St. Paul School of Theology.

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## Wednesday Morning Bible Study

### Beginning Sept. 3

Dr. George Gordon will lead the Wednesday Morning Bible Study in September and October in a discussion of I Peter and II Peter. Dr. Gordon has begun studying these two brief letters attributed to Peter that focus upon “Living the Christian Experience in All Circumstances.”

The class, which meets at 9:00 a.m. in the Youth Center (Rm. 205), will include the usual lively mix of lecture and discussion and the occasional appearance of puns and treats. Please bring your Bible, your interest, and your prayers. We will enjoy the fellowship and growth in faith and grace that often occurs when two or three gather in Jesus’ name.

## Pathways to Learning



**It's the Economy: Four Perspectives** – Money or “mammon” is the most talked about subject in the Bible. And today, people still worry about their pocketbooks as well as the complex issues of a global economy. Take a fresh look at the issues from the vantage point of an individual, a U.S. citizen, a global person and a Christian. Each Sunday in September from 9:55 to 10:55 a.m. in the Social Hall, we will present a different perspective.

**Sept. 7** – Steve Kraske, host of KCUR’s “Up to Date” and columnist for the *The Kansas City Star*. Steve will discuss the U.S. presidential race and Missouri governor’s race and examine the economic platforms important to voters.

**Sept. 14** – Chris Lester, Assistant Managing Editor, Business, at *The Kansas City Star* will help us look at the current economic climate. With energy, taxes and health care concerns on the rise, what are the real issues?

**Sept. 21 and 28** – Israel Kamudzandu teaches New Testament at St. Paul School of Theology. He will help us look at economic issues from a Biblical and global perspective.

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## Women's Ministries

**Circle 3** will meet for the first session of the new year on Tues., Sept. 16 in the Youth Center at 10:45 a.m., followed by lunch at the Outreach Council luncheon with the missionaries from Haiti. Call Linda Schooling-Kekina at 816-523-8921 for more information. (See page 2 for more information about the luncheon.)

**Circle 12** will meet on Tues., Sept. 23 for lunch at 12:00 p.m. Contact Janet Roberts at 913-661-9581 for more information.

**Circle 17** will meet on Tues., Sept. 23 for lunch at 12:00 p.m. Contact Gloria McLerran at 816-942-1438 for more information.

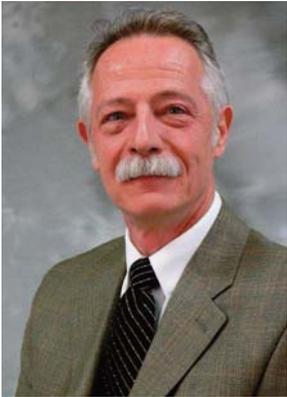
**Circle 18** will meet at the church on Fri., Sept. 26 for lunch at 12:30 p.m. Contact Lois Russell at 913-338-1064 for more information.

**Keystone Network** will meet on Tues., Sept. 16 at 7:00 p.m. Contact Mary Dibble at 913-649-3199 for more information.



## Living Exodus 18

by Rev. David Diebold, Minister of Music



Years ago, an insightful, retired Disciple minister told me to read Exodus 18. In that chapter, Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, advised Moses to gather as many people as he could to assist him in ministering to the people. Wise advice.

It should come as no surprise to you that in recent weeks, we at Country Club Christian Church have been living that advice to the highest level. As one would expect, every member of the staff, both clergy and administrative, have been working diligently, preparing for the advent of our new worship format:

publicity to prepare and send out; serving schedules to be prepared; details to coordinate; yard signs to make; worship bulletins - prepared - proofed - re-proofed - and tweaked; carpets cleaned; floors polished; Sunday school rooms readied. This list goes on and on. The level of teamwork during that period of time was certainly of the highest order. But it didn't stop there.

The Festival Sunday Team, chaired by Jennie Beck, met for months, planning and preparing to make the day very special. Each sub-team had tasks to accomplish and they went about their work, coordinating with each other to make sure every detail was in order. On the Saturday prior to Festival Sunday, over 20 people gathered to set up the decorations. There was a wonderful cross-section of ages and demographics within the congregation. In the span of a few hours the building and grounds were transformed into what you experienced on Festival Sunday. And, that morning, the choirs, soloists, brass, and organists all arrived early to polish the music that you heard during the four worship services.

My point here is not that this was the first time we have experienced such teamwork. What I am observing is that the teamwork that has always been visible at Country Club Christian Church is growing exponentially. There is an excitement in the air coming from all segments of the congregation. We are living the message that Jethro put forth in the Book of Exodus. I think the work that went into Festival Sunday would not have been possible without all of the assistance from every corner of this congregation.

Imagine then, as new program ideas are unveiled this season, how much more we can do with everyone's help.

*David*

## Tall Oaks Gala Is Oct. 10

*Every Day's A Holiday* at the 2008 Tall Oaks Conference Center annual benefit dinner. Proceeds help benefit camps and conferences in which our congregation participates. The 11th annual gala fundraising event will be Fri., Oct. 10 at the Muehlebach Tower of the Kansas City Marriott Downtown. All donations are tax deductible.

If you would like to donate an auction item or for more information, contact Susan and Alan Garner, Gala Ambassadors, 816-822-7194.

## Web Site Gets a Facelift

The church's web site, [www.cccckc.org](http://www.cccckc.org) has undergone a massive redesign this summer! The new and improved site launched on Aug. 17.

The goal for the redesign was to build a site that uses updated technology to reflect the mission of the church, to promote and inspire involvement, and to make it easy for people to gain, request, or provide information.

Be sure to check out the new site, featuring new blogs, easy-to-navigate categories, and other exciting new features. New updates and additional information and features continue to be added.

## Sticks and Phones Orffestra CD Available in The Well

A CD of 14 selections recorded by our Sticks and Phones Orffestra is now available. The recording is 42 minutes and is available in The Well for \$10.00. All proceeds go to The Well's beneficiary, Week of Compassion, which provides emergency disaster relief to peoples around the world.

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## 2008 Christian Community Camp Participants



Rev. Carla Aday and Dr. Glen Miles led ninety-five members in a week of fellowship and recreation at the 2008 Christian Community Camp, held at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park, CO, during the week of Aug. 2-9.

### **Youth Ministry Extravaganza**

**Sun., Sept. 7, 9:30 a.m.**

Come hear what is going on in Youth Ministry during 2008-2009. Join us at 9:30 a.m. in the Youth Center (Room 205) for coffee and a light breakfast. The formal program will begin at 10:15 a.m. We will distribute Youth Ministry packets to youth and parents and you will have an opportunity to sign up for volunteer teams. Concludes by 12:30 p.m.

### **Help the Church Go Green!**

**Does the church have your e-mail address?**

Is your e-mail address on file at the church? Have you recently changed jobs or internet providers, resulting in a new e-mail address that we might not have? If you're not sure if we have your correct e-mail address, or if you're not receiving e-mails from the church, please contact Jane Fletcher at [janef@cccckc.org](mailto:janef@cccckc.org) or 816-333-4917 as soon as possible to update your e-mail information.

The church has begun the process of automatically sending the Country Club Christian newsletter and other communications to you electronically via e-mail, rather than mailing you a hard copy. This will help us reduce paper, ink and especially postage costs, in addition to helping us become a more environmentally friendly organization. If you don't have an e-mail address, or if you would just prefer to receive the newsletter in hard copy, you may still receive it that way. Please let Jane know if this is your preference.

Thank you for helping Country Club Christian Church go green!



## Planting Seeds

by Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn, Minister to Children and Families



I like the idea of gardening much more than the reality of it. It has taken me some years to come to that conclusion or perhaps that admission. I am always enthusiastic in the early spring making big plans, some fulfilled, some not so much. What does seem to remain consistent is my delight in seeing the garden in full bloom throughout parts of the summer. There is such satisfaction in seeing the work of spring blossom into the beauty of summer.

Reaping the rewards of one's efforts is not always possible when working with children. The very difficult reality is that we may never see the full development of the seeds of faithfulness we seek to plant, but every so often we get a glimpse of how those seeds are developing. Tina McGuire has a 5-year-old son who attended Vacation Bible School and his younger sister, Lauren, who is 2 ½, will join us for VBS next year. Tina shared this story with me.

*"Last week I heard Breck and Lauren downstairs just playing and as I listened from afar, he was playing Vacation Bible School. He had made a Beamers sign (this was the name of his group during VBS) and hung it on the wall and informed Lauren he was the boy teacher and they were going to have story and sing time. He proceeded to sing 'love, love, love just a little bit of love' and was teaching it to Lauren. He then informed her it was craft time and they moved to our art area and then game time. Of course, since he was the 'teacher,' he also told her to tell him if she needed to go to the bathroom. It was very cute and sincere and on subsequent evenings he wanted to play Vacation Bible School with Lauren and me."*

Tina went on to affirm the great volunteers who gave of their time and talents to help create this meaningful experience for her family.

My heart warmed when Tina shared that story as it validates each faith-based experience we can provide a child that may live on and on in them. A child's encounters with the stories of the Bible and being in a community seeking to be faithful to God plants seeds that, with continued nurture and experiences, will blossom in a range of ways throughout their life. At times it is difficult not to be able to measure results when we live in a society that focuses on outcomes and immediate feedback. But in providing opportunities and foundations for children to come to know God, we may have to take our delight in the planting of the seeds, having faith that the blossoms will come whether we see them or not and every once in awhile getting a glimpse of those blooms.

## Children and Families

### Backyard Movie Night

**Fri., Aug. 29**

Join us for movie night in the church backyard to enjoy *Ratatouille*. Fellowship and fun begins at 7:00 p.m. with the movie starting about 8:00 p.m. Bring lawnchairs and blankets to sit on – and snacks to enjoy! Lemonade and popcorn provided. Free-will offering will be taken. Invite friends to join you for the movie watching!

### First Steps

**Sun., Sept. 7**

Families with children 3 and under are invited to gather for fellowship and faith-focused conversations. Informal conversation as we gather followed by singing (led by Ms. Laine Riley, Associate Director of Music), a short story for the children and a faith topic for discussion with parents. Bring your child with you, or childcare is available on the ground floor. We will meet on the third floor in Rm. 304 from 9:55 to 10:55 a.m.

### Club Kids

**Sun., Sept. 7**

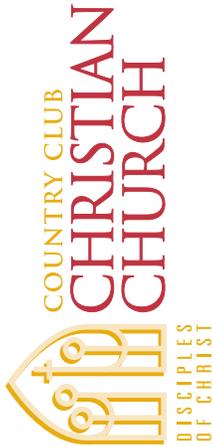
Third – 5th graders are invited to Sunday evening fellowship from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. On this first Sunday of our 2008-2009 year, we will have team-building games and activities followed by a snack supper. Parents and siblings are invited to join us at 6:30 p.m. for a dessert bar and a short discussion about the coming year's activities. Join us on Sept. 7!!!

### Moms' Group – Growing in Faith

**Tues., Sept. 9**

Moms with children are invited to gather with other moms for conversation and fellowship beginning Tues., Sept. 9 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. At this first session we will make decisions about topics and readings for the coming sessions. The Moms' Group meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays at the church. Childcare is available. Make reservations with Chris at 816-333-4917 or christ@cccckc.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

**Dr. George Gordon III**  
Minister of  
Congregational Care

**Rev. Cynthia Heller**  
Minister of  
Parish Visitation

**Rev. Kelly Ingersoll**  
Minister to Youth and  
Young Adults

**Rev. Dale Ramsey**  
Associate Organist

**Rev. Catherine Stark-Corn**  
Minister to Children  
and Families

**Ms. Sandy Eisenman**  
Director of  
Financial Services

**Ms. Lisa McCleish**  
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Childhood Programs

**Ms. Laine Riley**  
Associate Director  
of Music

**Ms. Lara Schopp**  
Director of Communications

**Ms. Lauren Weinhold**  
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## Healing and Wholeness Prayer Service

**Tues., Sept. 2 at 7:30 p.m.**

Join us for a peaceful time of song, scripture and prayer at 7:30 p.m. on Tues., Sept. 2 in Combs Chapel. This service offers an opportunity for those in attendance to share prayerful concerns as well as blessings. Note this is a change in date from the Ministries and Events Guide.

## A Trip Down Memory Lane

**Honoring Dr. George Gordon**

Join us on Sun., Oct. 19, at 5:30 p.m. for a special celebration of Dr. George Gordon's 33 years of dedicated ministry to the people of Country Club Christian Church and Kansas City. Don't miss this opportunity to thank George and congratulate him on his retirement as Minister of Congregational Care. Watch for more details.

## Our Church Family Congratulations

Congratulations to Caycee Comer and Jon Garlow on their wedding July 5.

Congratulations to Heather Lewandowski and Mitch Laughlin on their wedding Aug. 2.

## Sympathy

MILDRED BROWN TAYLOR passed away Aug. 12. She is survived by her daughter, Jeanne Taylor Cockayne, and two granddaughters.

## In the Hospital

As of Aug. 21, we are calling on the following individuals: Virginia Reed at St. Luke's Plaza; Milt Luce at St. Luke's Plaza, and Theron Swank at Timberlake Nursing Center.

## Memorials

CLEO M. LITTLE

Vicky Cross

Ron Cross

LOUIS & EVELYN MYERS

Fred & Judy Bellemere

LIDA L. SCHWEGLER

Maxine & Patty Pence

Otis & Carole Miller

John & Norma Tilton

**Permanent Missionary Fund**

M. RAY GOLLY

Jim & Viola Holloway

**Music Memorial Fund**

WENDELL HEMBREE

Mary L. Graves