



DISCIPLES
OF CHRIST

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COUNTRY CLUB

CHRISTIAN

Strength for the Journey. Grace for the Soul.

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*We joyfully
welcome
and nurture
all people
by providing
a vibrant
Christ-centered
community
of faith,
dedicated to
spiritual growth
through
worship, study
and service.*

Emphasis is on the Environment in September



In September Country Club Christian Church presents a series of offerings focusing on ways we can be good stewards of the earth.

September Sermon Series: The Green Letter Version

Join us the last three Sundays in September for Dr. R. Glen Miles' sermon series *The Green Letter Version*. Our world is undergoing environmental change, and the damage to God's earth as a result is clearly evident. Science suggests we should recycle and reduce, but as people of faith, what else can we do? During this three-part series, we'll listen to the ancient voices of the Bible as we seek to discover the link between nature and grace. Starting Sun., Sept. 13, at all three worship services.

Green Team Needs Volunteers!

Country Club Christian Church's Green Team is recruiting 10-12 volunteers to help weed and maintain the George Hamilton Combs Columbarium outside the Chapel. Teams of two people are needed one day each month to spruce up the columbarium grounds. Please contact Mary McClure at (816) 561-2213 or Jenny Doty at (913) 789-9374 if you can give one and a half hours per month in helping to beautify the columbarium.

Pathways to Learning



Sept. 13 – Living as Good Stewards of Our Land. Ken Warren from the Land Institute will talk about how to live without biting the land that feeds us.

Sept. 20 – It's Not Rocket Science, It's Godly Stewardship: A Look at How We Should Use Energy. Rick Gasaway, author of *An Inconvenient Purpose – Linking Godly Stewardship and Alternative Energy*, offers information and useful suggestions for Christians who care about leading the way to a better, cleaner world for everyone. Come and see a demonstration of the difference it makes to use compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs).

Visitor Information Seminar on August 29

Are you interested in joining the Country Club Christian Church family? Whether you're ready to join the church or simply want to learn more about the many ministries here, we invite you to attend the next **Visitor Information Seminar on Sat., Aug. 29, 8:45 a.m.-12:00 noon**. Learn about the multitude of ways you can be

strengthened on your faith journey. Meet the ministers, visit with some of the church's lay leaders and enjoy a light breakfast and lunch. Please contact Lauren Weinhold at laurenw@cccckc.org for more information to RSVP for the event.

AUGUST 21, 2009



MORE² to Host Transportation Forum

MORE²

Join MORE²
(The
Metropolitan

Organization for Racial and Economic Equity) on Thurs., Aug. 27 at 6:00 p.m. at Zion Grove Missionary Baptist Church, 2801 Swope Parkway, for a public meeting focused on fair and equitable transportation in Kansas City. William "Fish" Terrill, a member of our maintenance staff, will share the story of his challenges with the public transportation system. Come hear Fish and other Kansas City residents tell their stories in hopes of affecting positive change for all Kansas City residents.

Christmas Trip to Branson December 3 and 4

Join the group traveling to Branson, MO, Dec. 3-4 for fellowship and to see three Christmas shows, a matinee and two evening shows. On tap will be "Miracle of Christmas," "The Twelve Irish Tenors," and "25 Broadway." The group will be staying at the Carriage Inn, which serves a continental breakfast each morning. Register by Mon., Sept. 21 with Mary Margaret House at marymargareth@cccckc.org. Watch for details on transportation and cost. Contact Wilda Zollars at wzollars@everestkc.net or 913-451-0684 for more information.

Stephen Ministry Training September 20

If you feel led to care and desire the tools, support, and encouragement to engage people in a loving, caring way ... Stephen Ministry may be for you!



Stephen Ministers provide confidential one-to-one Christian care to individuals in our congregation and community who are experiencing difficulties in their lives. Stephen Ministry can be described several ways, including "Christ caring for people through people," and "God's love in action." Country Club Christian Church's Stephen Ministry program was established in 1983 and is one of the oldest continuous programs in the country.

This fall and winter, we will offer a training program for new Stephen Ministers. The commitment is substantial, but richly rewarding. Training is 50 hours and equips Stephen Ministers with the resources and support that make competent, supervised, confidential care based in the love of God a reality. After training, Stephen Ministers make a minimum two-year commitment to bimonthly meetings, group meetings and in-services.

Training begins Sept. 20 and will continue on Thursday nights through April 2010. Information and applications are available outside the congregational care office. If you have questions, please contact Dr. Chuck Rolen, Interim Minister of Congregational Care at 816-333-4917 or chuckr@cccckc.org.

Country Club Christian Church Income and Expense Report For the Month Ended July 31, 2009

Although the results for the month of July appear favorable, the preliminary budget for the year still shows a deficit of nearly \$125,000, even with the recent expense reductions.

	July Actual	July Budget	Preliminary Annual Budget
Income			
Income from Pledges	\$ 164,325	\$ 176,696	\$ 1,279,000
Other Income	25,667	33,148	345,406
Total Income	\$ 189,992	\$ 209,844	\$ 1,624,406
Expense			
Administration	\$ 103,522	\$ 95,714	\$ 1,148,565
Building	17,605	30,071	360,850
Outreach & Other Programs	10,469	19,972	239,665
Total Expense	\$ 131,596	\$ 145,757	\$ 1,749,080
Net Income(Expense)	\$ 58,396	\$ 64,087	\$ (124,674)



Grace, Hope and Communion

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



Paul ends his letter to the church in Corinth with three words: Grace, Love and Communion. In *The Message* it reads like this: “The amazing Grace of Jesus Christ, the extravagant love of God and the intimate friendship of the Holy Spirit, be with all of you.”

It’s almost like Paul is wrapping up everything he has ever written or preached about in these clear and simple words. He seems to be saying, “If you want to live the Christian faith, then practice amazing grace, extravagant love and intimate friendship. If you really want to evangelize the world – that is, bring good news to all that you encounter – don’t boil it all down to four spiritual laws which miss the point anyway. Instead, live with grace and love and friendship at the center of your being and the world will want to have more of what they see in your life and the way you live it.”

Theology is sometimes complex and difficult to understand. There are parts of the Bible that require serious thought and careful study. But these three words put it clearly for all of us: grace, love and friendship are the three parts of our faith that must be shared. The rest are details.

Richard Niebuhr, one of the finest theologian of the 20th century, said, “The great Christian revolutions come not by the discovery of something that was not known before. They happen when somebody takes radically something that was always there.”

I wonder what would happen if Christians everywhere would stop talking about their faith and just start living it. I heard someone say, “Most people talk more radically than they live. The challenge is to live more radically than you talk.” There is a great truth embedded in that statement.

As St. Francis said, “Preach the gospel at all times. When necessary, use words.”

Grace and peace to you,

Smile!

Have you had your photo taken for the directory? If so, you will receive a complimentary copy of the directory as soon as it is available. Only those individuals who have participated, will receive a directory. It’s not too late. Sign up today online at www.cccckc.org. Just click on the photo sign-up icon.



Senior Minister’s Bible Study

In October, Dr. R. Glen Miles will lead a four-week Bible study entitled *Money, Sex and Power: Hot Topics in the Bible* on Monday evenings. Watch for more information on this study, as well as the companion sermon series, *The Naked Truth: Sex, Spirituality and The Soul*, starting in October.

Worship with us!

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

Aug. 30

The Gospel of God
James 1:17-27

Dr. R. Glen Miles preaching

Sept. 6

Rev. Carla Aday preaching

Sept. 13, 20 and 27

Dr. R. Glen Miles presents
The Green Letter Version,
a sermon series on the environment.
(See page 1 for more information.)

Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

Pathways to Learning



See page 1 for information on the Sept. 13 and Sept. 20 presentations.

Sept. 27 – How the Bible Came to Be: Old Testament, by Professor Harold Washington of St. Paul School of Theology.

Oct. 4 – How the Bible Came to Be: New Testament, by Dr. David May, Central Baptist Theological Seminary.

One-ders

A diverse group of singles ages 35-60-ish, where everyone is always welcome. Focusing on developing spirituality, service to others, and providing opportunities for growth through fellowship. Join us in Rm. 302 every Sunday from 9:55-10:55 a.m. On Aug. 30, the topic is *Lose Your Life*, led by Keith Washburn and Phil Lile.

Sat., Aug. 29, 8:00 p.m. – Dru and the Geezers – Let's try this again! Come enjoy the rockin' sounds of our own Jere Hanney and his other band, Dru and the Geezers! Location: Jake's (Johnson Dr. and Quivira).

Upcoming Mission Trips

New Orleans, Nov. 8-14

A mission team will make its fifth trip to the New Orleans area to assist in the ongoing rebuilding efforts after 2005's Hurricane Katrina. Anyone 16 years of age or older is welcome. No special skills required. Contact Kelley Quinn at (816-333-1859 or elmokitty@everestkc.net).

Nicaragua, Feb. 20-28, 2010

A brief sign-up and orientation meeting is planned on Sun., Aug. 30 at 12:15 p.m. in Rm. 201 for anyone interested in joining the mission team that will return to Nicaragua Feb. 20-28, 2010. The team will work among the poorest of the poor in a rural village. For more information, contact Stephanie Pilkington at spilkington@awginc.com.



Bible Study Options Begin in September, Continue Throughout the Year

Three opportunities for Disciples Bible Study (DBS) begin in September. Sign up begins Sun., Aug. 23 in the Parlor, or you may sign up by calling 816-333-4917 or emailing Mary Margaret at marymargareth@cccckc.org. Options include:

DBS I - For individuals who want to read the Bible from start to finish, DBS I is an in-depth study of the bible. The title of the class is *Becoming Disciples through Bible Study*. The materials use biblical language and images and draw upon the work of scholars to aid understanding of the Bible. The titles of the sessions along with theme words, theme verses, and major persons, events, and topics will set the sequence of the biblical story in the minds of the participants.

Two DBS I Classes are available

Wednesday Mornings – Led by Lesley Holt, this class will meet every week from 9:30-11:30 a.m., starting Wed., Sept. 2.
Wednesday Evenings – Led by Ken Hubbell, this class will meet every other week for two years. The first year covers the Old Testament; the second year features the New Testament. This evening class is targeted for working individuals. Begins Wed., Sept. 2.

Advanced DBS

Tuesday Mornings – Starting Sept. 1. Led by Tepring Crocker every Tuesday from 9:30-11:30 a.m., this class is for individuals who have already taken DBS I or II. *Under the Tree of Life* is a 32-week study concentrating on the writings in the Old Testament – Ruth, 1 and 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, Lamentations, and Daniel. New Testament scriptures include the Gospel of John; 1, 2 and 3 John; James; Jude; and Revelation.

Other upcoming Bible study options include:

- **Wednesday Morning Bible Study**, resumes on Wed., Sept. 9 at 9:30 a.m. in the Youth Center (Rm. 205).
- **Senior Minister's Bible Study** – In October, Dr. R. Glen Miles leads a study entitled *Money, Sex and Power: Hot Topics in the Bible* on Monday evenings.
- **ABC – A Basic Christianity** an introductory Bible study focused on basic topics related to faith and spirituality.
- **Bible Workbench** – During Lent, another series of Bible Workbench, a weekly small-group discussion, begins.
- **Short-term DBS** – An 8-week DBS seminar will be offered in the spring. Watch for more information.



This Old House

by Marilyn Wimer, Director of Administrative Services



It has been an interesting summer for the Practical Services Council, the group charged with looking after the church property. Chaired by Dan Jensen, this committee is a dedicated bunch with lots of history in dealing with our building and grounds issues.

We always have lots of projects on the summer schedule, both inside and out, but a few surprises came our way in 2009. On June 29, a section of the Social Hall ceiling fell. A funeral attended by a large crowd was underway in the Sanctuary

when it happened and a catering crew was at work preparing a luncheon for them downstairs. Immediately every church staff person not involved with the funeral joined the caterer in shifting the luncheon – including tables, linens, flowers, candelabra, and food – to the Parlor. The meal was ready to serve within 15 minutes of the accident and the crowd in the Sanctuary was completely unaware of any problem. (We have a wonderfully responsive staff!)

Dan Jensen and a structural engineer from his company arrived very shortly to assess the damage. The engineer determined that the culprit was a loose screw in a light fixture installed about 25 years ago. It took time and gravity that long for the screw to let go. A work crew was on site that afternoon to remove the rubble; repairmen came during the next several days to repair the damage and inspect and re-secure every other light fixture in the room; and the Social Hall was ready for use again in less than 10 days.

In July, we repaired a sink hole in the east driveway that was redirecting lots of rainwater into the east end of the Social Hall. New gutter extensions were added to keep rainwater out of the west end of the Social Hall.

An inspection of the bell tower found extensive damage to its roof and stonework. There is also repair work necessary in several sections of the tile roof across the building. Soon you will be seeing huge lifts working around the building to make these repairs and inspect the structure's stonework.

Anyone who has ever owned a home knows how much time and money is spent on repairs and maintenance. This lovely old building is our church home and we can only expect that its upkeep will demand lots of money and attention. After all, it is nearly 90 years old. We are fortunate to have dedicated lay leaders and staff to look after our property, keeping it secure and beautiful for generations to come.

2009 Tall Oaks Gala Auction

Sign Up to Donate

The 12th annual Tall Oaks Gala fundraising event for Tall Oaks Conference

Center is fast approaching and donations are being sought for both the

live and silent auctions in conjunction with the event on Oct. 9.



Sign up at the table in the Parlor on Sun., Sept. 6 or 13. Auction donations received by Sept. 14 will be included in pre-event publicity and the program. Those received by Oct. 2 will be listed on the bid sheets at the Gala. All donations are tax deductible.

For more information or to make a donation, contact Susan or Alan Garner, Country Club Christian Church gala ambassadors, at 816-822-7194.

The gala will be at the Intercontinental Hotel on the Country Club Plaza. Proceeds help benefit camps and conferences in which our congregation participates. Tall Oaks is a camp, retreat center and conference center on 350 woodland acres just east of Linwood, KS.

Race to Grace 2009 is August 28-29

Don't miss Country Club Christian Church's Youth Ministry's third annual Race to Grace Aug. 28-29! This event is for youth in grades 6-12 for the 2009-2010 school year.

This year's theme is *Experiencing the Gift of God*. Teams of youth will race around the city discovering God's grace at every turn. Participants should have already turned in registration forms and fees. Contact Chris Trout at christ@cccckc.org for more information.

Adult volunteers are still needed! If you are an adult who loves to work with youth, think about volunteering as a van driver, coach, event marshal or any other gift that you may have. Contact Justin at justinz@cccckc.org or Brandon at brandonw@cccckc.org.



Race to Grace 2008



Children, Youth and Families Open House

Join us on Sun., Sept. 13 for a Children, Youth and Families Open House, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. in the Last Supper Sculpture room off the parlor. Come by and explore all the opportunities for children, youth and families, and learn about ways to volunteer, too!

5th Quarters for Youth Begin

Football games have four quarters ... what's there to do when time runs out and the game is over? Join us for 5th Quarters at Country Club Christian Church. On Fridays beginning Sept. 4 after football games during the high school football season, we will meet at the Youth Center from 9:00 p.m. to midnight to hang out and have a good time. This is a perfect chance to come and grow together as a community. Rides will be available for those who need a way home from the church. Youth grades 6-12 are welcome.

Ninety-five Members and Friends Enjoy Community Camp

Ninety-five members and friends of Country Club Christian Church gathered in Estes Park, CO, Aug. 1-8 for the annual Community Camp. Campers young and old enjoyed a week of fellowship and relaxation in beautiful Rocky Mountain National Park at the YMCA of the Rockies. Activities during the trip included a nightly vespers, group hikes, visits to the

craft shop and downtown Estes Park, a hay ride and countless opportunities to enjoy the beauty of God's creation in the mountains.

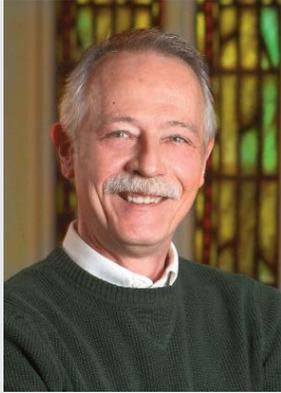
If you'd like to attend 2010's Community Camp, watch the newsletter for information coming this fall.





Come to Me, Come to Us ...

by Rev. David Diebold, Minister of Music



Last month we started using a new song for the opening of the 9:00 a.m. worship service. It is called “Come to Us.” Both the words and the music by Rory Cooney provide a vibrant, vital, engaging marriage of text and tune. The first stanza reads:

*Come to me, come to us, you who are burdened.
Come to the Word, and come to the meal,
Come without question or pressure or price:
Come, be embraced by the body of Christ.*

The song goes on to extend the invitation to a whole catalogue of human conditions: pilgrim or stranger; (those) looking for change, or challenge, or light; as well as those broken or building. The final stanza ends with these words:

*Come with your children, your choices, your chains,
All are invited to friendship or rest,
to share in our struggle, our call, and our quest.*

The entire song text is full of images that bring to my mind what we hear Dr. Miles say in his sermons: “All are welcome here.” I see this piece as one of the really fine examples of contemporary sacred song: it is theologically relevant and it is extremely singable and easy to remember.

What I really love about these words, though, is the opening couplet: “come to me, come to us.” The invitation first comes from God (come to me), but when the invitation is extended to join “us” in the next line, we, the congregation, become the voice for God in the world. If God’s realm of peace, love and justice are to become real in our world, we need to become the spokespeople for God. So, let’s start close to home.

Festival Sunday is upon us. It signals for us the back to school, back to church, end of summer time when we begin to gear up for the fall season. Sometime in the next month or so, I challenge you to invite a friend or neighbor to join us here for worship, Bible study, or another event... We offer so many opportunities here that exemplify the words written above that “all” can find a welcome here.

David

Children and Families

Growing in Faith Moms Group

September 14

Join this group of moms for informal conversation and fellowship as we meet twice a month (coffee and conversation or community outreach). We will begin with coffee at Aixois at 55th and Brookside Boulevard from 10:00 – 11:15 a.m. on Mon., Sept. 14. Childcare will be available at church beginning at 9:30 a.m. Please RSVP to Catherine at catherinesc@cccckc.org.

Fountains of Faith: Fundamentals of Faith

The opening rotation for 1st–5th graders begins Sun., Aug. 30. Each grade level explores a particular area of faith development during this four-week rotation:

First Grade – Worship Basics

Second Grade – Practicing the Presence of God

Third Grade – Introduction to the Bible

Fourth Grade – The Christian Year

Fifth Grade – Into the World.

We look forward to seeing you at Sunday School from 9:55 – 10:55 a.m.

Club Kids

Sunday, September 13

Third-5th graders are invited to join us for fellowship, fun and faith-focused discussions from 5:00-7:00 p.m. A snack supper is served at 6:30 p.m. Please make plans to be there! Parents are invited to come at 6:45 to hear about the schedule for the year and explore carpooling with other families! See you on the 13th!

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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

Dr. Charles Rolan
Interim Minister of
Congregational Care

Dr. Brian Campbell
Associate Organist

Ms. Sandy Eisenman
Director of
Financial Services

Ms. Karla Herrington
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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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816-333-4917 fax: 816-333-7538
email: office@cccckc.org website: www.cccckc.org

Honor Your Loved Ones with Radio Broadcast Sponsorship

Each Sunday you can hear a broadcast of the previous week's sermon at 8:30 a.m. on KXTR, 1660 AM. Now, you can honor a loved one by dedicating sponsorship of this broadcast to him or her. The sponsorship minimum is \$180. Simply contact Sandy Eisenman at 816-333-4917 or sandy@cccckc.org for more information.

Collection Connection

Cross-Lines Community Outreach

In August, we are collecting items for Cross-Lines Community Outreach for its shower facilities. Guests who are day laborers, homeless, or are new in town and looking for jobs, often shower and change into appropriate clean clothing there for interview opportunities. Items needed include disposable razors, full-size roll-on deodorant, conditioner and shampoo, and combs. Please bring your donations to the Parlor. Cash donations are also accepted.

Our Church Family

Congratulations

To Jason and Elizabeth Pruitt on the birth of a daughter, Isabella, on Aug. 18.

Memorials

MAEBELLE P. HODGES

Nancy N. Ashton
Joanne Pope

MARIE W. LOCKTON

Nancy N. Ashton
Kansas City Young Matrons

IN HONOR OF MILDRED

SCHOOLING'S 100TH

BIRTHDAY

Gloria McLerran
Florence Petrides