



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

Join us this Sunday to celebrate nine decades of ministry with our 90th Anniversary Party on the Parkway!

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.

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

- ◆ Dr. R. Glen Miles begins a sermon series entitled *Founded in Faith, Growing in Grace* with the sermon *If These Walls Could Talk*.
- ◆ Help us prepare the 90th Anniversary Time Capsule by writing a prayer wish during any of the worship services.
- ◆ 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 play at 11:00 a.m.
- ◆ Children entering 3rd grade this fall 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

- ◆ 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 fellowship for all on the front lawn.

BUILDING COMMUNITY BOOK *by* BOOK

Wendell Berry Speaks September 23; Art Exhibit Premiers August 27

Country Club Christian Church in Partnership with The Land Institute presents renowned poet, farmer, novelist, and essayist Wendell Berry at the Building Community Book by Book event on Thurs., Sept. 23 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Mr. Berry will discuss his book *Andy Catlett: Early Travels*. The event is free and open to the public.

Berry's presentation will benefit The Land Institute in Salina, KS, through a generous grant from the Endowment Trustees of Country Club Christian Church. The Land Institute is a non-profit research, education, and policy organization dedicated to sustainable agriculture.

An art exhibit entitled Paintings and Photographs of the Prairie accompanies Berry's appearance, featuring the works of six renowned artists. The exhibit will be on display in the church's first floor gallery beginning Aug. 27. Featured artists include Louis Copt, Dan Coburn, Phil Epp, Allan Chow, James Borger and Arlie Regier. These artists are all noted for their works featuring the region, especially the Flint Hills, and each is in prominent collections such as H&R Block, the Kauffman Foundation and the Overland Park Convention Center. The exhibit is being loaned to us courtesy of Leopold

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New Members Welcomed on August 15



Emily Kramer and Bryan Wassenberg
New Member Hosts: Phil and Lindsay Howes



Kristin Walker with Ben and Henry
New Member Host: Mindee Forman



Nancy Combest
New Member Host: Suzanne Willey



Jamie Menzies and Brent Parker
New Member Hosts: Cara and Keith Hayden



Justin Beebe and Kate Pickert
New Member Host: Pat Martin



Justin Zeigler
New Member Host: Steve Bough

The next New Member Sunday is Nov. 21. For more information, contact Lauren Weinhold, Director of Church Growth, at laurenw@cccckc.org.

Book by Book, *continued from page 1*

Gallery (324 W. 63rd St. in Brookside). Select artists will be present when Berry speaks on Sept. 23, if you wish to meet them.

If you haven't yet had the opportunity to read *Andy Catlett: Early Travels*, please purchase your copy in The Well Book and Gift Store for just \$12. There is also still time to sign up for a one-time discussion group that will meet between Aug. 29- Sept. 22. Visit www.cccckc.org or call 816-333-4917 for a list of discussion groups.

2011 Nicaragua Mission Trip Sign Up Is September 12

Help conduct medical clinics and construction projects in a small, rural village. Those with medical and dental training, a command of the Spanish language or construction skills are especially needed, but no special skills required. A team from Country Club Christian Church will travel to Nicaragua Feb. 19-27, 2011. To learn more about the opportunity and to sign up to participate, join us at 12:15 p.m. on Sun., Sept. 12 in Rm. 201. Contact Rev. Carla Aday, carlaa@cccckc.org for more information.



2010 Mission Team



Thank You

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



Thank you, Country Club Christian Church, for the time needed for reflection, rest and renewal. The past three months of sabbatical leave could not have gone better for my family and me. We traveled to South Africa in May and June and took a long drive out to the Pacific Northwest which included stops at Mount Rushmore, Glacier National Park and Yellowstone National Park. What a great joy it was to see America the beautiful.

During the sabbatical I rediscovered some of the great joys of ministry, not the least of which is time for reading. I read novels, books on theology and leadership and more. I'm looking forward to sharing some of the stories and learnings that I encountered in these readings. A future Passages column will be an annotated report on several of the books I was able to complete.

Another joy from the past three months was the chance to hear great preaching. We were inspired by the progressive and passionate preaching of brilliant pastors like Adam Hamilton at The Church of The Resurrection and Tom Are at Village Presbyterian Church. Tom and Adam are great guys and terrific friends and it was spiritually energizing to sit in their pews as they proclaimed the grace of God for all.

I was also able to spend time in worship online with my friend Dick Wing at First Community Church in Columbus, OH. If you heard Dick preach here at Country Club you know he is a powerful preacher. What a joy it was to connect through the internet with his church and to hear his message of God's love for everyone.

In July, I co-led an Advent preaching workshop in Turner, OR (near Salem) with my mentor and friend, Doug Dornhecker. In October, David Diebold and I will present the same workshop to Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) pastors in Kansas City. Doug and I had a great time listening to Isaiah's ancient yet contemporary word. Doug also provided valuable insight and thoughtful ideas centered on my preaching. I am greatly indebted to him for his scholarly and creative input.

There are many more stories to tell (ask my son, Steven, about the lion that almost scared him to death during a safari) but for now let me say once again, thank you. I look forward to seeing all of you in worship very soon.

Participating in The Passion of God – 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. Dr. Glen Miles will lead this morning of reflection and discussion on the theme "Participating in the Passion of God: Leading with Passion, Purpose and Poise in the Church Today." This retreat is designed to lead Elders and Deacons into the program year with purpose and inspiration.

Worship with us!

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

Aug. 22

Dr. R. Glen Miles preaching
at 9:00, 10:00 and 11:00
If These Walls Could Talk

Aug. 29

Dr. R. Glen Miles preaching
at 9:00, 10:00 and 11:00
Founded in Faith, Growing
in Grace, Part 2

Sept. 5

Dr. R. Glen Miles preaching
at 9:00, 10:00 and 11:00
Founded in Faith, Growing
in Grace, Part 3

Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

God and Neighbor: a Look at Post-Katrina New Orleans

This new intergenerational class asks the theological questions that many of us have struggled with as we attempt to answer “who is my neighbor?” and “where is God in our world?” This class will prepare individuals for the New Orleans mission trip October 24-30—but it is not limited to those going, nor is it required for them. This is simply a chance for anyone to study where the Bible speaks on some of the issues being faced by our neighbors in the Gulf Coast. The class will meet Tuesday nights through Nov. 9, alternating between Biblical studies around New Orleans issues and social gatherings centering on the New Orleans culture.

Location to be announced. For more information, contact Steve Mason, Pastoral Resident, at stevem@cccckc.org.

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, shampoo, and combs. Please bring your donations to the Parlor. Cash donations are also accepted.

The Undecideds

This new group will create a community composed of college-age folk from all over, who are seeking to deepen their spiritual connection to God through study, mission projects, worship and social events. This group is designed to address the theological, cultural and social transformations that often happen during college and graduate school. We respect that people of this age group are often over-stressed and over-committed. But, we strongly believe that we need one another to better learn what it means to be a Christian in this new chapter of life. This newly-formed group is open to all beliefs and levels of commitment, but we earnestly desire to make a difference in the lives of members.

Days and location TBA. Contact Steve Mason at stevem@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917.

Pathways to Learning in October Will Focus on Sustenance for Soul, Self, Society



Join us in October for a three-part series that will explore the themes raised by the visit from Wendell Berry in *Building Community Book* by Book, themes of how we relate to the land that sustains our lives, the food we eat, the community in which we

live.

The programs will be presented from 9:55 to 10:55 a.m. in the Social Hall.

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.

Oct. 3 – *Self* – Jill Silva, Food Editor of the *Kansas City Star*

Oct. 10 – *Soul* – Rev. Carla Aday

Oct. 17 – *Society* – Karen Haren, Executive Director of Harvesters Community Food Network

Wednesday Morning Bible Study Resumes

This group especially for senior adults resumes Sept. 1 and meets every Wednesday morning to study the Bible in an effort to create a deeper understanding of the sacred texts from lecture and discussion. This year the curriculum is “Answering God: The Psalms as Tools for Prayer.” You can purchase your book in The Well or read it in the church library. Join us at 9:00 a.m. in the Youth Center (Rm. 205). For more information, contact Rev. Chuck Murphy at 816-333-4917 or chuckm@cccckc.org.

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.



Mary and Elizabeth

by Justin Zeigler, Director of Middle School Ministries



The Gospel of Luke tells us that after Mary was told by the angel Gabriel that she would have a child by the power of the Holy Spirit her simple response was, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.”

I love the image of this young girl standing before God and taking on the task of bearing the “son of the most high.” It is a very beautiful image, but if we continue with the story...we find that Mary couldn’t do this alone. “In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.”

Mary was probably the age of one of the 8th graders I work with, and this young scared woman was searching out help. This courageous young woman heard the call of God in her life...something new was coming, but she needed the support and love of someone whom she trusted. These two women lived together, supported one another, and in their calls changed the way we see the world.

We all have times in our lives when we are Marys. When we need the support of another, when we are exploring things and need a safe person to stand with us and love us. We all have the capability to be Elizabeths. We can be people who are safe to come to for courage and advice. People who can guide the paths of another and help them find the strength to live out their calls.

Where are you in life? Where are the youth of our congregation? How is the Spirit moving in their lives? What are they passionate about? What wisdom do they have to share? They have the needs of Mary. They need another person to stand with them as they struggle with discerning new things in their lives. They have the gifts of Elizabeth to be a loving and compassionate presence.

I pray that you get to know these talented young people and form authentic relationships with them. No matter our ages, in relationships which are grounded in love, we can experience something new. We have the capability of birthing a new thing, a new life, a new love that can transform the world.

Save the Date for Grace At Work 2010

At our third annual Grace at Work event, many hands will make for light work and a great impact in our community! A few hours of service can make a difference at a local organization in Kansas City or even complete projects right here at Country Club Christian Church. Please join us Sat., Sept. 18, 2010 and help make this collaborative service effort a success.



Grace at Work is a wonderful opportunity to make a short time commitment of service that results in a widespread impact in Kansas City. It offers a unique occasion for rewarding fellowship and service that you will not want to miss.

Volunteer opportunities range from construction projects with Habitat for Humanity to boxing meals at Youthfront. Projects are available for all ages and abilities, so every helping hand is a valuable one. Registration will take place in the Parlor on Aug. 29, Sept. 5 and Sept. 12.

If you are interested in joining us for Grace at Work or have questions, please contact Stacey Roske at staceyroske@gmail.com.

Healing and Wholeness Prayer Service on September 7

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

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 to the 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

Kids Summer Outreach



This summer, several children had the opportunity to serve at Harvesters community food bank. On June 26 and July 15, children loaded up and headed over to Harvesters Volunteer Outreach Center to help sort and pack food for about two hours each morning. Did you know that Harvesters distributes more than two million pounds of food each month? These donations help supply food to more than 60,000 people in the Kansas City area. Watch for another opportunity to serve at Harvesters on Oct. 18 through our “Grace at Work” day here at church!

Pictured above are Olivia Keller, Laura Keller, Lauren Herrington, Kersti Nix, Stewart McCray, Reese Nix, Josephine McCray, and Hatch McCray.

The Teen Years Series

The Outlook Sunday School class will host a three-part series on The Teen Years during Aug. 29 and continuing Sept. 5 and 12. 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. The sessions will be held from 9:55-10:55 a.m. Sundays in the Solarium (Rm. 309). Watch for sign-up information.

Upcoming Bible Studies

Disciple Bible Study 1

This 34-week class offers an overview of the whole Bible, from Genesis to Revelation. During the first year, the class will study the scriptures of the Old Testament and in the second year the class will study New Testament texts. The study aims at transformation, not just information. The study requires homework, mostly reading Bible passages between each class. Hundreds of members of our congregation have completed this course and found it to be not only enjoyable but life shaping. The book costs \$40. Beginning Sept. 13 and continuing through June 13, the group will meet the second and fourth Mondays from 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Disciple Bible Study 2

Participants need to have taken Disciple Bible Study 1. This group, led by Lesley Holt, will cover the books of Genesis, Exodus, Luke and Acts. The group will meet Wednesdays, Sept. 8-May 11, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in Rm. 201. The book is \$40.

Disciple Bible Study 1 – Continued

This group began with a study of the Old Testament last year. The group will complete the class with the New Testament study this year. Every other Wednesday beginning Sept. 8, 7:00-9:00 p.m.



The Words of Wendell Berry

by Rev. Carla Aday, Senior Associate Minister



*I know that I have life
Only insofar as I have love.*

*I have no love
Except it come from Thee*

*Help me, please, to carry
This candle against the wind.*

Wendell Berry

This summer I have fallen in love with the words of Wendell Berry. I read his novel, *Andy Catlett: Early Travels*, a couple of years ago when we first invited him to come and speak about that novel. But this summer a friend gave me a book of his poetry. Normally I find poetry a bit over my head. But I read Mr. Berry's poetry as if it was a page turner. And quickly I had a need to acquire more books of his poems. And then in preparation for his fall visit, I decided to read more of his work. I was overwhelmed when I found more than 50 choices on Amazon.com. Where do I begin, I wondered. The essays on the environment, on how we ought to use our land with more reverence and eat our food with a deeper awareness of where it grows, seemed a bit daunting.

So I began with the novels. A number of his novels are set in the fictitious town of Port William, KY and the characters overlap from book to book. So after a while picking up a new novel feels like going to another family reunion. You get to revisit some folks you haven't seen lately. My favorite novel so far has been *Jayber Crow*. At first I was impressed by phrases like, "Back there at the beginning, as I see now, my life was all time and almost no memory . . . And now, nearing the end, I see that my life is almost entirely memory and very little time." That single image evoked so many thoughts about my own youth, my own aging, my own parents and grandparents. But I was even more impressed by the gems of Christian wisdom sprinkled throughout the story. One of the characters describes his own conversion experience. He says it was not a conversion in the usual sense but more like "I had been in a house and a storm had blown off the roof: I was more in the light than I had thought."

Now I'm ready to start in on his essays. I'm beginning to understand why so many have called Wendell Berry a modern prophet. Using the most ordinary words and images, he invites us to imagine the world that should be and to appreciate the world we have been given as a holy gift. I look forward to sitting down in our sanctuary on Thursday, Sept. 23 to listen with you as he speaks to us in person.

Carla

Children and Families

Fountains of Faith Rotation

Festival Sunday = Shepherd Sunday

1st-5th graders will meet by grade level on Sun., Aug. 22 to connect with each other and their Shepherds. We look forward to seeing everyone for Sunday School beginning at 9:55 a.m.

Opening Rotation: Fundamentals of Faith

Beginning Sun., Aug. 29, 1st-5th graders will meet by grade level with a specific focus for this opening four-week rotation.

- 1st grade – Worship Basics
- 2nd grade – Practicing the Presence of God
- 3rd grade – Introduction to the Bible
- 4th grade – The Christian Year
- 5th grade – Into the World

Club Kids – Save the Date

3rd-5th graders are invited to our Sunday evening gatherings beginning Sept. 12 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Join us for games, meeting friends, short devotional time and a light supper! We will also have a meeting for parents to preview the Club Kids sessions and events from 6:45-7:00 p.m. on Sept 12.

Moms' Group – Monthly Service

Moms are invited to join us for fellowship and service on the fourth Tuesday of the month beginning Tues., Sept. 28. We will serve at Rose Brooks Center from 9:30-11:00 a.m. Childcare is available by reservation. Please RSVP to Karla Herrington, karlah@cccckc.org.

Save the Date!

Mystery Trip for 1st and 2nd graders on Sat., Nov. 6. We will gather at the church and head out to an undisclosed destination. Watch for sign up information.

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Return Service Requested

New Orleans Mission Trip

Help work on housing issues in New Orleans as a response to the natural and human-made disasters that struck New Orleans in recent years. A mission team from Country Club Christian Church will be doing hands-on work as well as a ministry of presence Oct. 24-30. Cost of the trip is \$350 per person with a \$150 deposit due to Mary Margaret House by Sept. 1 and the remainder due Oct. 1. Those with technical building skills are especially needed, but all are welcomed. The trip will be led by Kelley Quinn and Steve Mason. For more information, contact Kelley at elmokitty@everestkc.net or Steve at stevem@cccckc.org.

Our Church Family

Congratulations

Congratulations to Drew and Kellie Hunt on the birth of Kenadie Kathleen Hunt on Aug. 3.

Congratulations to Chad and Sarah Thacker on the birth of Morgan Elizabeth Thacker on Aug. 4.

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 of Congregational
Care

Ms. Karla Herrington
Director of Children's
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Steve Mason
Pastoral Resident

Mr. Brian Mathias
Associate Organist

Ms. Lisa McCleish
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Childhood Programs

Ms. Laine Riley
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Ms. Lara Schopp
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Ms. Lauren Weinhold
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