



DISCIPLES  
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COUNTRY CLUB

# CHRISTIAN

Strength for the Journey. Grace for the Soul.

## INSIDE

Learning to See  
Like Jesus  
by Glen Miles  
≈≈≈  
page 3

Connecting and  
Reconnecting  
by Lara Schopp  
≈≈≈  
page 5

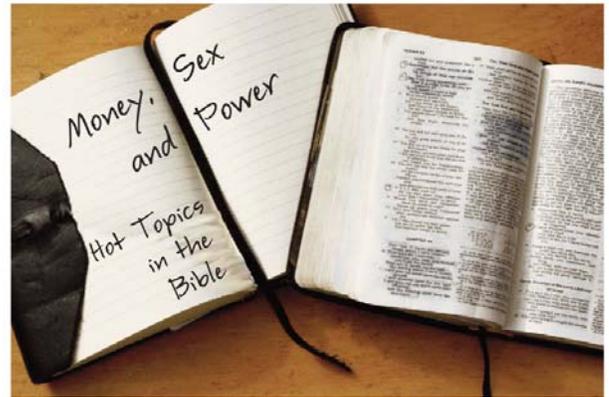
Love Is the  
Catalyst  
by Chuck Rolan  
≈≈≈  
page 7

*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.*

## Senior Minister's Bible Study Begins October 5

In October, Dr. R. Glen Miles will lead a four-week Bible study entitled *Money, Sex and Power: Hot Topics in the Bible* at 7:00 p.m. on Monday evenings. Don't miss this intriguing study, which is a companion to the upcoming sermon series, *The Naked Truth: Sex, Spirituality and the Soul*, which begins Oct. 4.

Sign up in the parlor on Sunday.



## Grace At Work Is Back! Join Us October 3

The Metro Mission Council invites you to roll up your sleeves and pitch in on projects in and around the church campus on Sat., Oct. 3 from 8:45 a.m. to noon. In these challenging economic times, this Grace At Work day is designed to tackle projects and needs for which the church would otherwise be forced to pay. We recognize that not everyone is able to increase



their pledge, so this is an opportunity for you to be a part of a creative solution by giving of your time and talents.

Projects include, but are not limited to, tree trimming and other yard clean-up, dusting and polishing of the Sanctuary and Chapel, and cataloging boxes of church memorabilia with members of the History Committee. To pitch in and lend a hand, simply sign up in the Parlor, call the church, or email Lauren Weinhold at [laurenw@cccckc.org](mailto:laurenw@cccckc.org).

### Old Fashioned Picnic Sept. 27

Join your church friends for an old-fashioned fellowship opportunity on Sun., Sept. 27, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. Bring a salad or dessert to share and enjoy the chance to catch up with old friends and make new ones. Barbecued brisket and hot dogs provided.



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# Message from Chair of Congregational Board

## By John Cockle, Board Chair

At the beginning of this church year, I gave some preliminary thoughts about serving as the chair of the congregational board. As I said then, my attention has been focused primarily on the financial issues facing the church. Now as we are getting a handle on the financial issues, I would like to share my thoughts about other priorities for this year.

**The Budget.** I believe we have made a great deal of progress in reducing the gap between expected income and budgeted expense. We made some significant reductions in the expense budget, and some of those actions were painful because they had an impact on people who have served the church faithfully. We now have a plan to improve the outlook for income for the year and balance the budget. The plan will be presented to the board at the next meeting on Oct. 13 and hopefully will result in approval of a balanced budget.

**Visioning.** We hope to have widespread support throughout the congregation for the visioning process. The current phase of the process is called Sacred Conversations. The idea is to form deepening connections with each other and with God by engaging in thoughtful small-group conversations.

**Stewardship.** We are in the initial stages of developing a comprehensive stewardship program that includes:

- ◆ an on-going, year-round stewardship process in support of the annual operating budget,
- ◆ a program of major gifts and planned giving to support the long-term financial health of the church, and
- ◆ a plan for addressing the capital improvements needed to maintain and improve the church property and operations.

This stewardship program is needed to ensure that we as a congregation are able to sustain and improve our ministries.

**Affirmation.** At our congregational board meetings, we always take time to recognize the special efforts of members of the congregation or staff. Thank you cards are written, and I know the affirmation makes a world of difference to the recipients. This was a tradition started by Lesley Holt when she was chair of the board. We as a congregation need to be affirming in many other ways as well. Think about how you can be more affirming to members of the congregation and others you encounter.

As you may be aware, this church year will mark the 90th Anniversary of our congregation. We hope to make the 90th Anniversary the starting point for a process of growth and faithful service that will culminate in the celebration of our 100th Anniversary.

## Mission Trip Council Summary of 2009 Participation

Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Bedford Township, South Africa; New Orleans, Louisiana; Aguas Frias, Nicaragua; Red Scaffold, South Dakota; Buffalo Flats Township, South Africa; Susuli, Nicaragua; Eagle Butte, South Dakota; St. Louis, Missouri.

What do these places have in common? Mission teams from Country Club Christian Church went to each of these places during the past year to work together with folks there to put a face on God's love. Each of these trips was sponsored and planned by the Mission Trip Council.

During the last year, 120 members of our congregation participated as members of these mission teams. Of the 121, 34 were first-time participants. There were 78 women and

girls, and 43 men and boys. The ages of team members ranged from 7 to 70 plus. The shortest trip was four days and the longest two weeks, with the cost ranging from \$50 to just under \$3,000. (In most cases, team members contribute the cost of their trips, although scholarships are available in some cases.) In addition, middle school and high school youth participated in trips to St. Louis and South Dakota.

These teams partnered with local folks to set up dental and medical clinics in villages in Nicaragua, assist in the ongoing restoration after Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, renovate a day care center for special needs children in a township in South Africa, assist in flood clean-up in Cedar

*continued on page 6*



## Learning to See like Jesus

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



“As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, ‘Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?’ Jesus answered, ‘Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him.’ ”  
John 9:1-3

The key word in the text above is “saw.” Jesus saw a human being. The disciples of Christ, however, don’t see this man because they are too busy preparing themselves for a theological discussion about the origin of sin. Later in the story the Pharisees try to use the healing of this blind man against Jesus. They don’t care about the blind one. They don’t really “see” him. The Pharisees, the well-educated and respected religious leaders of the day, are too busy being theological to notice this man. Even the man’s parents don’t want anything to do with him. They are brought in as witnesses to help settle the theological argument that everyone is having but they back away saying, “Umm, we’re not sure. Can we go now?” His own parents don’t see him.

No one sees this man, except Jesus.

If you want to know why people during Jesus’ time on earth begin to call him the Son of God, if you want to know why some think he might be the Messiah, the Christ, you need look no further than this story. You don’t need to skip ahead to the resurrection. You don’t need to recall all of the miracles. You don’t even need to worry about the miracle in this story.

If you want to know why Jesus is named the holy and sacred one, take a moment to see like Jesus. When everyone else is ready to get into a big argument about sin, Jesus sees a human being in need of the touch of God. Jesus sees a human who needs to be made whole.

People saw God when they saw Jesus because when Jesus saw the lost, the least, the last, and the little, he saw children of God. When Jesus sees you and me he does not see our cars or our bank accounts or our homes or our positions or our educations. He sees children of God. He knows that our deepest desires are to be loved for who we are.

Maybe the greatest thing we can do as a church is learn to see like Jesus.

Grace and peace to you,

### Tutors Needed

Tutors are needed for the church’s tutoring program at Argentine Middle School. Tutoring is on Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. and lasts for approximately 12 weeks during fall and spring semesters. Students are in 6th, 7th or 8th grade, studying math or English. Please contact Katie Allison with questions or to sign up at 816-361-6378 or [katiea@planetkc.com](mailto:katiea@planetkc.com).

## Worship with us!

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

**Sept. 27**

*The Green Letter Version* Part 3: Jesus

Came to Save the Earth

*John 12: 32-34*

Dr. R. Glen Miles preaching

**October-November  
Sermon Series**

Dr. R. Glen Miles presents

*The Naked Truth: Sex,*

*Spirituality and the Soul*

Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25 and Nov. 1 and 8

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# Adult Ministries at Country Club Christian Church

## Women's Ministries Luncheon

Join us on Tues., Oct. 27 at noon in the Social Hall for luncheon and a program by Dr. Kirsten Morg, local author, teacher and counselor. Dr. Morg will review her book *Rodina, a Novel of Mother Russia*. The history opens in 1861, the year of the great emancipation of the Russian serfs in a village on the Volga River. It tells the story of Evgenia, a Russian woman who endures the upheavals of her beleaguered homeland and her family, remarkable and heroic, and lifts up the strong women who know how to endure. It is an inspiring story. Dr. Morg and her daughter have spent time in Russia teaching and her story is thoroughly researched and accurately detailed. The book is available in The Well.



Call Mary Margaret House at 816-333-4917 with your reservation.

## Circle 18 Completes 59 Years of Service

Fall is time for Women's Ministries to begin their work for 2009-2010, meeting monthly September through May each year. Circle 18 members, led by Mrs. Preston Russell (Lois), have made the decision to stop meeting officially. There will be a celebration luncheon Oct. 27 in conjunction with the remaining three circles in the Social Hall. All interested persons are invited to make reservations by calling Mary Margaret House at 816-333-4917.

Circle 18 was formed in 1950 following World War II. Members worked tirelessly over these past years benefitting more than 30 organizations in the Kansas City community and giving thousands of dollars to Disciples Missions of the Christian Church. They were responsible with other circles for providing the means to have a secretary for the Christian Women's Fellowship here at Country Club Christian Church serving on staff and thus provided a great deal of leadership for the Regional Church because of their strength and organizational abilities. Women's Ministries salutes this outstanding group of women and their accomplishments who "worked together with concern for all people serving our Lord, Jesus Christ" for the past 59 years.

## Pathways to Learning



### How the Bible Came to Be

**Sept. 27** – *Old Testament*, by Dr. Harold Washington, St. Paul School of Theology.  
**Oct. 4** – *New Testament*, by Dr. David May, Central Baptist Theological Seminary.

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## YaWhose Young Adults in their 20s and 30s

The group, which includes couples and singles, hosts four quarterly special events and four quarterly Sunday lunches, in addition to meeting on Sunday mornings from 9:55 to 10:55 a.m. On Sept. 27, the group will attend *How the Bible Came To Be*, part of the Pathways to Learning series.

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## One-ders

A diverse group of singles ages 35-60-ish, where everyone is always welcome. Focusing on developing spirituality, service to others, and opportunities for growth through fellowship.  
**Sunday School** – Join us in Rm. 302 every Sunday from 9:55-10:55 a.m. This fall we will hold a series of Holy Conversations. These classes will be led by members of the Visioning Team, and are designed to evoke each member's feelings and beliefs about God and our church and to build deeper relationships with God, our church, and each other.  
**Movie Night on Sept. 26** – Join us for a current movie followed by dinner. Stay tuned to email for further information or call Suzy Spencer at 913-262-0088.

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## 2009 Tall Oaks Gala Auction

The 12th annual Tall Oaks Gala fundraising event for Tall Oaks Conference Center is on Oct. 9 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. For more information, contact Susan or Alan Garner, Country Club Christian Church gala ambassadors, at 816-822-7194.





## Connecting and Reconnecting

by Lara Schopp, Director of Communications



When my dad died five years ago, a friend I hadn't seen in 15 years came to the funeral visitation. She and I had been close as children, but drifted apart in high school. I was moved by her presence at the visitation, but I unfortunately didn't bother to ask for her contact information. Afterward, not only did we drift back into forgotten friends territory, I never had the opportunity to tell her how much her presence meant during a difficult time.

Fast forward to a year ago, when she and I became "friends" on Facebook. Facebook is a social networking web site which helps you connect or reconnect with friends and colleagues. Through the site, I reached out to my friend and let her know how much it meant to me that she'd come to my father's visitation. We began exchanging emails and soon found that we have a great deal in common as adults—similar career fields, children around the same age, shared political views. Though we live in different cities, in the last year I've seen her four times and we have renewed a fantastic friendship.

You may have heard me yammering about Facebook, Twitter, and other electronic communications methods over the last year or so. The church has been using these tools to help communicate with our members. Many of you are "fans" of the church on Facebook, and others follow us on Twitter. We've moved to sending most of you the church newsletter via email, and we maintain a high-quality web site to help keep you informed and connected.

Why do you need to join a social networking site or use electronic tools to connect with the church? If you follow our web site or keep up with us on Facebook, you have access to all kinds of information, such as commentary from Glen on sermon ideas, a calendar of events, photos from events and mission trips, sermon audio files, mission trip blogs, and much more. So I invite you to join Facebook and become a fan of the church, follow us on Twitter, or use the web site regularly to connect with your church.

But if being better connected with your church isn't incentive enough, consider the family and friends with whom you might reconnect. Having my childhood friend back in my life is a great blessing, one I'm not sure I'd have known without Facebook.

For those of you who are interested but could use a little help, the Communications Council is considering hosting instructional classes about how to better use email, the church's web site, Facebook or Twitter. If you'd be interested in taking one of these classes, please give me a call or send me an email at [laras@cccckc.org](mailto:laras@cccckc.org).

*Lara*

## Service of Prayer for Healing and Wholeness on October 6

Please join us for a peaceful time of song, scripture and prayer at 7:30 p.m. on Tues., Oct. 6, in the Combs Chapel. This service offers an opportunity to share prayerful concerns as well as blessings.

## Grief Support Group

"Journeying Through Grief," a grief support group, is meeting Saturday mornings through Oct. 10 in the church library at 10:30 a.m. Call Mary Linda McDonnell, group facilitator, at 816-822-2292 to register or to get further information.

## New Bible Study for Busy People

Would you love to learn what is really in the Bible, but you just don't have time? Then this is the class for you! In this Disciple Bible Study I class, you will learn the Old Testament this year and the New Testament next year. Class will meet every other week on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. at the church under the leadership of Dr. Ken Hubbell, retired professor from UMKC and active church elder. Sign up and purchase your books (\$38) in the church office. Class begins Oct. 7.

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## Breakaway for All Youth in CYF

On Nov. 13-14, Country Club Christian Church CYF youth (grades 9-12) have the chance to attend

“BreakAway.” That night at 8:00 p.m. we will be meeting

with other youth from around Kansas City for worship. From there we will have our choice of laser tag, bowling, skating, basketball, and volleyball. This lasts the whole night, and then we will come back to the church for breakfast and head home. Be on the look out for sign ups! Contact Brandon Winstead at [brandonw@cccckc.org](mailto:brandonw@cccckc.org) for more information.



## Building Inspection Underway

Our nearly 90-year-old building is receiving a much-needed inspection by C&M Restoration, a company specializing in stone masonry preservation and restoration. A number of safety concerns have made the work necessary this fall.

The project will be done in two phases. First, the company will completely inspect all four sides of the church to remove loose stones and concrete pieces and make sure it is safe for the winter. Next, their structural engineer will submit a proposal for repairing and replacing the damaged pieces next summer.

Roofing work is also underway, repairing the badly damaged roof at the top of the bell tower and several places where the red tile roof needs attention. Both the masonry and roofing work is being paid for with Endowment funds specifically designated for building maintenance.



## Mission Council, *continued from page 2*

Rapids, and engage in activities with Lakota children in South Dakota. It has been said that there can be no sharing of what we have without a sharing of who we are. Our experiences in each of these places have been a powerful confirmation of that idea.

In addition to the 121 mission team members who traveled to the trip destinations, many other members of the congregation also participated in these trips. The sewing ladies made curtains for the many windows of the special day care center in Bedford Township. They made dresses and shorts for children in South Africa and Nicaragua. The knitters made prayer shawls and scarves for men and women at the Samaritan Centre in Buffalo Flats, South Africa, and stocking caps for children living in an orphanage there. Individuals and Sunday School classes donated funds to purchase medicines and other medical supplies for clinics in villages in Nicaragua and supplies for children's activities in Red Scaffold, South Dakota, and Bedford Township, South Africa. Each of these contributions of time, talent and treasure was important to the success of the trips.

The stated mission of the Mission Trip Council is to initiate and maintain long-term mission partnerships and short-term mission projects that (1) emphasize relationships rather than just “good works,” and (2) involve the full spectrum of congregational membership groups. We have worked hard to accomplish that mission, and have already begun planning for trips for the coming year. We believe these trips are an important part of the ministry of Country Club Christian Church.



## Love Is the Catalyst

by Dr. Charles Rolen, Interim Minister of Congregational Care



Most of us are familiar with Jesus' summary of the Ten Commandments: Love God with all you have and love your neighbor as you love yourself (Mark 12). In 1968, at the age of 19, Kent M. Keith wrote what he calls "the paradoxical commandments." He wrote them as a challenge to always do what is right, good and true, even if others don't appreciate or welcome it. Twenty-five years later, he discovered these inspirational words had spread around the world and were found hanging on the wall of Mother Theresa's children's home in Calcutta, India. His 2001 book, *Anyway:*

*The Paradoxical Commandments* explores the ideas behind the commandments and what it means to live them.

Here are Keith's *10 Ways to a Better Life*:

1. People are illogical, unreasonable, and self-centered. Love them anyway.
2. If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish or ulterior motives. Do good anyway.
3. If you are successful, you will win false friends and true enemies. Succeed anyway.
4. The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway.
5. Honesty and frankness make you vulnerable. Be honest and frank anyway.
6. The biggest men and women with the biggest ideas can be shot down by the smallest men and women with the smallest minds. Think big anyway.
7. People favor underdogs but follow only top dogs. Fight for a few underdogs anyway.
8. What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight. Build anyway.
9. People really need help, but may attack you if you do help them. Help people anyway.
10. Give the world the best you have and you'll get kicked in the teeth. Give the world the best you have anyway.

I don't think it is a coincidence that love is the first one on Keith's list. Love is the catalyst for all the others. When we approach life from the viewpoint of love, we are able to accomplish things we never thought possible. Sounds like the "new commandment" given by Jesus: Love one another! (John 13: 34).

May love inspire, guide, and sustain all of us on our journeys of faith.

*Chuck*

## Children and Families

### Club Kids – 3rd-5th graders

**Sun., Sept. 20** – T-shirt making at Mattie Rhodes Art Center from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

**Sun., Sept. 27** – Team building at Tall Oaks Conference Center from noon-5:45 p.m. For full information contact Chris Trout at [christ@cccckc.org](mailto:christ@cccckc.org).

### TGIF – This Group Is Fun

Families with children 6 and under are invited to join this group that meets the fourth Friday of the month. Fri., Sept. 25 will be hosted by Catherine Stark-Corn and Brian Corn at their home from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Childcare is available at church beginning at 5:30 p.m. Adults are asked to bring an appetizer to share and contribute \$5 per child for childcare (maximum \$10 per family); snacks for children provided. RSVP to Mary Margaret at [marymargareth@cccckc.org](mailto:marymargareth@cccckc.org).

### Moms Group – Growing in Faith

**Mon., Sept. 28**

Moms are invited to serve with the Micah Ministry at Independence Boulevard Christian Church. We will meet at church at 9:15 a.m. and head to IBCC, returning by 11:30 a.m. Childcare available at church beginning at 9:15 am. For more information, contact Karla Herrington at [karlah@cccckc.org](mailto:karlah@cccckc.org) or 816-333-4917.

### Mystery Trip

**Sat., Oct. 17**

1st and 2nd graders are invited to join us for our fall mystery trip. We will gather at 9:00 a.m. at church, then depart to our "mystery" location, returning to church by 2:00 p.m. Cost is \$10 per child and children will need to bring a sack lunch. Please RSVP to Karla Herrington, [karlah@cccckc.org](mailto:karlah@cccckc.org). Space is limited so sign up early!

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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 Rolen**  
Interim Minister of  
Congregational Care

**Dr. Brian Campbell**  
Associate Organist

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

**Ms. Karla Herrington**  
Director of Children's  
Ministries

**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

## Christmas Trip to Branson

### December 2-4

Join the group traveling to Branson, MO, Dec. 2-4 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 Sept. 21 with Mary Margaret House at marymargareth@cccckc.org or 816-333-4917. Watch for details on transportation and cost. Contact Wilda Zollars at wzollars@everestkc.net or 913-451-0684 for more information.

## Our Church Family

### Sympathy

DAVID L. ARMS, son of Carol and Richard Arms, passed away Sept. 8. A memorial service will be held in the Sanctuary on Sept. 19, Dr. R. Glen Miles officiating.

### Memorials

NORMA “BUNNY”  
CORBIN

John & Virgie Bancroft  
Don Jensen  
Janet Gottsch  
Larry & Joyce French  
Ann & Allen Smith  
Thomas & Elizabeth Hocker  
M K & Joyce Hultgren  
Hal & Gay Woosley  
Burnie & Betty Hiatt  
Don & Sally Henderson

Jim & Betty Blackwell  
Anita Johnson  
Joyce Fowler  
Don & Mary Dibble  
Richard & Yolanda Fuller  
Jack & Marilyn Waller  
Tom & Helen Gray  
Chuck & Janet Roberts  
Marianne See  
Shiela Richards  
Frank & Janet Siler

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