



DISCIPLES  
OF CHRIST

VOLUME 83 · NUMBER 21

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.*

## Sister Joan Chittister to Speak Here November

Joan Chittister is no ordinary nun. She met with the Dali Lama, appeared with Tim Russert on *Meet the Press*, and called for women's ordination to the Catholic priesthood.



You will have a chance to hear this dynamic speaker and best selling author on Sat., Nov. 7 at 9:00 a.m. at Country Club Christian Church. Her topic "The God They Never Told Me About: A Convergence of Opposites" will engage us in a reflection of how faith shapes our daily lives. Sister Joan does not mince words when it comes to the naked truth of a spirituality that changes hearts. An internationally renowned speaker on topics of spirituality, peace, and justice, her 2009

speaking tour includes the Parliament of World Religions in Australia and the Science and Spirituality Conference in Italy. One of Christianity's key visionary voices, Chittister has authored over 40 books and will release four more this fall. She founded and directs Benetvision, a resource for contemporary spirituality.

9:00 a.m. – Joan Chittister – Sanctuary  
10:00 a.m. – Question and Answer Session  
10:15 a.m. – Reception and Book Signing

Come and bring a friend. The event, co-sponsored by Country Club Christian Church and Topics to Go, is free and open to the public. Books will be available for purchase.

## Church Property Beneficiary of Grace At Work

On Oct. 3, more than 70 volunteers came together to work on projects in and around the church campus. Groups trimmed trees, pulled weeds, laid mulch, spruced up the Sanctuary and Chapel, cleaned the Youth Center and Social Hall kitchens, dusted and organized the library, and sorted and catalogued church artifacts.

According to the Independent Sector, the national hub of charitable organizations and foundations, the hourly dollar value of a volunteer's time is equal to \$20.25. A huge thank you to all of the volunteers who contributed a total of \$4,252 worth of their time on Saturday!



Perry Cockayne and Rob Sanders spread mulch during Grace at Work. More pictures on page 6.

OCTOBER 16, 2009



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## Tammeus and Cukierkorn to Speak at Thanksgiving Dinner November 19

Bill Tammeus and Rabbi Jacques Cukierkorn, authors of *They Were Just People: Stories of Rescue in Poland During the Holocaust*, will be the featured speakers at Country Club Christian Church's annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Nov.



19. Tammeus is a former nationally syndicated columnist for *The Kansas City Star*, and Rabbi Cukierkorn, descended from Polish rabbis, is the spiritual leader of the New Reform Temple in Kansas City, MO. The

book tells the stories of Polish Holocaust survivors and their rescuers. The authors traveled extensively in the United States and Poland to interview some of the few remaining participants before their generation is gone.

We will gather at 6:30 p.m. in the Social Hall on Thur., Nov. 19 for a traditional dinner of turkey, dressing and all the trimmings followed by the speakers. Cost is \$14. Make your reservations by Sun., Nov. 15 with Mary Margaret at 816-333-4917.

The Well will be open throughout the evening for holiday shopping.

## Country Club Christian Church's Cups Going Greener

Starting immediately, you'll notice that the church has moved from Styrofoam cups to paper ones. This change has been made in our continuing efforts to make Country Club Christian Church a more environmentally friendly place.



Being good stewards of our environment comes with a significant increase in the cost of the paper cups. Paper cups are nearly three times as expensive as their Styrofoam counterparts. So, as we make an effort to protect God's earth, we also need to do our part individually to minimize the cost difference and protect the church's budget by using fewer cups. What does this mean to you?

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## Repair of Tile Roof Completed



The church's tile roof receives repair work from the Pro Tech crew. Work was done to the cupola tower above the parlor and other parts of the wide tile roof areas.

The Green Team encourages each member of Country Club Christian Church to help offset this expense by bringing a ceramic coffee cup to be kept in their Sunday School classrooms or taken back and forth from home. Mug racks will be placed in classrooms for storage. New reusable plastic glasses have already been purchased for the Youth Center.

The church is also looking into the cost and availability of selling thermal mugs and coffee cups with the church's name and logo in The Well.

There will always be plenty of the new paper cups on hand for all events, but your assistance with personal mugs will help keep the cost down. Thank you for your continued support in being good stewards of God's green earth.



## Running Away

by Dr. R. Glen Miles



During my youth ministry days I led a lesson for the youth group on temptation. I passed out blank note cards and asked them to list their top three temptations. I told them their comments would remain anonymous. I reminded them that everyone is tempted. Even Jesus, according to the Bible, was tempted. The youth leaders collected the cards and recorded the responses. You may not be surprised by the items that made the list: cheating at school, sexual activity, drinking and drug use. I was surprised, however, by the most common answer:

the temptation to run away.

The desire to just run away from it all was the toughest temptation faced by this group of bright and marvelous kids. As we reviewed the list of temptations, one of the kids piped up and said, “You know, in some ways most of the items on that list represent some form of running away.” She was right. Alcohol and drugs are abused most often by those who are captured by fear, fear of the work ahead, fear of the next day, fear of a parent. Sex can be used as a form of escapism. The list goes on and on.

A few weeks later I was leading a seminar for parents. I asked them to list their temptations, too. I assured them, like I had their children in the youth group, that their responses would be anonymous. To my amazement their lists were almost identical. Number one on their list of responses: “to run away.”

What do we want to run away from? The list is long but as often as not we want to run away from adventure to dullness, from opportunity to boredom, from challenges to safety nets. In some ways running away from life is running away from God.

When we run away from God we often end up in the chaos we were hoping to avoid in the first place. The great promise of the Bible is not a life free of challenge and worry and risk. Instead what we find is a God who is willing to go through anything with us, even death, in order to lead us to the peace that passes all understanding.

The temptation to run may never go away but neither does the promise of God’s presence. Is there a tough challenge before you in life right now? Are you worried about a crisis at work or home? With God and each other we can face anything and everything life throws our way.

Grace and peace to you,

## Celebrating Ministry

Since 1932, the Pension Fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has celebrated the Week of the Ministry.

During the week of Oct.

18-25, take the opportunity to say thank you

and to make the vocation of ministry more visible to those considering this important call.



Those who are called to ministry truly are God’s hands. They are our spiritual hands. They are the vessel, the transporter of the Word, a very present help in times of trouble, a kindred spirit, mentor and spiritual guide. They are also physical hands that greet us on Sunday. As we celebrate the Week of the Ministry, we appreciate, affirm and pray for the hands of ministry within our church.

## Worship with us!

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

### Sermon Series

Dr. R. Glen Miles presents  
*The Naked Truth: Sex,  
Spirituality and the Soul*

**Oct. 18**

Part 3: Angry Lust  
*Ephesians 4: 17-24*

**Oct. 25**

Part 4: Love Worth Dying For  
*Ephesians 5: 21-33*

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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 Borg, local author, teacher and counselor. Dr. Borg 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. Borg 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. RSVP to Mary Margaret House at [marymargareth@cccckc.org](mailto:marymargareth@cccckc.org) or 816-333-4917.



## Pathways to Learning



### How the Bible Came to Be

**Nov. 1** – *How the Modern Bible Came to Be*, Dr. David May.

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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.

**Oct. 18** – History of Christianity, led by Jim Brandt.

**Oct. 25** – Temptations in the Struggle for Spiritual Growth, led by Chuck Murphy.

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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 are holding a series of Holy Conversations led by members of the Visioning Team.

**Monday Night Bible Study** – We are participating in the Bible study on Monday nights at 7:00 p.m. with Dr. Miles on Sex and Power: Hot Topics in the Bible, through Oct. 26.

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## S.P.I.C.E. (Society for the Preservation of Interesting and Creative Eldership)

S.P.I.C.E. will meet at 11:00 a.m. on Wed., Oct. 21 for lunch and the "Voices Radio Show," a flash back to old-time radio. Directed by Hank Rector, the cast of six will take us back to the days when broadcast humor was witty, funny and free of anything objectionable. A meal will follow. The cost for the meal is \$8. RSVP by 4:00 p.m. on Oct. 16, to Mary Margaret House at [marymargareth@cccckc.org](mailto:marymargareth@cccckc.org) or 816-333-4917. All members and friends of Country Club Christian Church are invited.

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## Sign Up Now For Nicaragua Mission Trip

There will be a meeting for all interested in the Feb. 20-28, 2010, mission trip to Nicaragua on Mon., Oct. 26 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the Solarium (Rm. 309). Working in partnership with a grass roots Nicaraguan agency supported by our denomination, our team will conduct medical clinics and do light construction projects with members of a small rural village located four hours from the capital of Managua. No special skills are needed. Cost is \$1,350. For more information contact Rev. Carla Aday at [carlaa@cccckc.org](mailto:carlaa@cccckc.org) or 816-333-4917.

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## Second Sunday Where parents of children ages 10 and under nourish mind, body and soul.

**Nov. 8** – 5:00-6:30 p.m., Social Hall. Dinner is \$7.50 for adults; children enjoy dinner and activity in the childcare wing, while parents gather for a light supper followed by the program. Make reservations at 816-333-4917 or [marymargareth@cccckc.org](mailto:marymargareth@cccckc.org).

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## New Orleans Mission Meeting

Members of the New Orleans mission team will meet on Sun., Oct. 25 at 12:15 p.m. in Room 201. At this meeting, we will finalize the details regarding our departure for New Orleans and a few other administrative matters. Please mark your calendars.



## Christmas in October

by Laine Riley, Associate Director of Music



I've never been a fan of early Christmas decorations. In a perfect world, everything Christmas would stay completely out of sight until precisely the day after Thanksgiving, when my tree goes up. The reality is that the world does not revolve around my timetable, and many places are completely decked out for the holidays by early to mid-October.

Interestingly, it is October when the church choirs swing into full gear as they prepare for the Advent season, and every year I look forward to the music. All choir members, from age 4 through seniors in high school are currently learning music for our Christmas at Country Club service on Dec. 6. Christmas at Country Club is our church's musical kick-off to the Advent season. This beautiful evening service is filled with choral music, readings, congregational carols, our own Orffestra and many additional talented instrumentalists.

Preparation for such a musical undertaking, especially with the very young singers, takes a great deal of time. I always get the strangest looks this time of year from the pre-kindergarten children as we start learning "baby Jesus" songs during their Worship and Wonder time. In the 1st through 5th grade Children's Choir rehearsals, we pause working on the musical to jump head on into Christmas music, memorizing many new lyrics every week. Fellowship Singers (6th through 12th graders) spend one hour a week diligently learning lyrics and four-part harmonies, in the midst of their very busy academic and school activity schedules. I am very grateful to all of our singers and their parents for their willingness to share their musical talents.

If you have never been to Christmas at Country Club, I encourage you to join us, regardless of whether you know someone who is singing in the choir or playing an instrument. I also encourage you to bring a friend. Christmas at Country Club is a service of celebration for the masses. There is something so moving about joining in with 60 young singers and various instrumentalists as we prepare for the coming of the Christ child.

I hope that you will mark your calendars for Sun., Dec. 6 at 6:00 pm in the sanctuary! You'll be glad you did!

### Collection Connection

We are helping to stock the Cross-Lines Community Outreach Christmas store for our October Collection Connection. Your donation of teen boys' ski gloves (not stretch) and hats, teen girls' gloves and hats, and girls' and boys' blouses/t-shirts as well as plastic jars of jams and jellies to distribute at the Christmas Store will make Christmas brighter for underprivileged families in Wyandotte County. At the Cross-Lines store, parents shop for one outfit for each member of their family. Please bring your new donations to the Parlor on Sundays in October.

### Flower Vases Needed

The flower ministry needs vases for flowers. If you have a vase you can donate, please leave it in the Social Hall kitchen or at the reception desk.

### 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 [sandy@cccckc.org](mailto:sandy@cccckc.org) or 816-333-4917 for more information.

## 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.” Friday night at 8:00 p.m. we will meet 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.



## Tag. . . You're it!!!

Chi Rho (6-8th grade youth) will play laser-tag followed by a lock-in beginning at 7:00 p.m. on Fri., Nov. 6 and continuing until 7:00 a.m. on Saturday. The youth will gather at the church before heading out to laser tag. Cost for the tag is \$15 per person. Scholarships are available. For more information, contact Justin Zeigler at [justinz@cccckc.org](mailto:justinz@cccckc.org).

## Grace At Work, *continued from page 1*



Kersti Nix, Deb Plucknett and Ginger Cline cleaned the Youth Center kitchen.



Brian Ritter, T. J. Snyder and Jenny Doty worked on the Chapel landscaping.



Jere Hanney and Tom Thornton cleaned the Chapel.



Bill Mace, Scott Fuller, Lou Kurz and Bill Hopkins trimmed trees.

## 2010 Christian Community Camp Sign Up is Oct. 18

Are you interested in the 2010 edition of Christian Community Camp? Members of the church

gather in the Rocky Mountains near Estes Park, CO, each summer for fun, fellow-



2009 Camp Participants

ship and renew-

al. Rooms fill quickly so if you are interested, sign up soon! This is a fabulous opportunity to connect with family and friends, deepen your faith and grow in your awareness of God's magnificent creation. In 2010, we will gather July 31-Aug. 7.

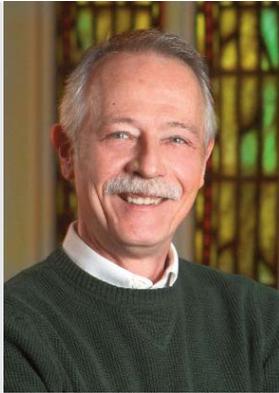
To sign up or to receive more information and ask questions, stop by the Last Supper Sculpture Room near the parlor on Sun., Oct. 18, 9:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

A \$200 (non-refundable) deposit will be due on Oct. 18 by 12:30 p.m. (\$100 deposit for the bunk room). If reservations exceed capacity, there will be a drawing to determine participation. Those who are wait-listed will receive priority next year (2011). A private room (sleeps 2, 4 or 6) costs \$1,300 a week plus each participant pays a \$75 food and activity fee. The bunk room fee is \$220 plus the \$75 food/activity fee.



## Present or Future?

by Rev. David Diebold, Minister of Music



I just finished a great novel titled *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein. The story tracks the joys and trials of a young family in the Pacific Northwest, told from the perspective of the family dog, Enzo. Early in his life the family discovers that Enzo loves watching television. We learn that he has seen a documentary about Mongolia where he discovers that the people there believe that when a dog dies, its soul is reincarnated as a human being. Enzo spends his days dreaming of his future life as a human as well as fretting that, because he is a dog, he cannot communicate

through words with his family.

Toward the end of his life, Enzo asks the following questions of himself:

“Have I forsaken my nature for my desires? Have I made a mistake by anticipating my future and shunning my present?” I immediately resonated with his query, as it is a question that almost every male asks as they pass through mid-life.

But I have to wonder: Is this not a question we should all ask ourselves at the end of every day? Are we so consumed with this deadline, project, event, or anything else that will occur down the line in our lives that we lose sight of the every day things that give meaning to our lives?

In the Gospel lessons we hear Jesus admonishing the people to not worry about tomorrow. In the Gospel of Thomas, Jesus is quoted as saying that the realm of God is in the here and now. Are we missing something? If we're too consumed with the future, we miss out on the present, those wonderful, mystical moments of connection with those we love and with those with whom we work or socialize. Perhaps we should ask ourselves Enzo's questions and then listen to our hearts to see what our answer might be.

David

## Children and Families

### Moms Group – Growing in Faith

**Mon., Oct. 26**

Moms are invited to serve Rose Brooks. We will meet at church at 9:45 a.m., returning by 11:30 a.m. Childcare available at church beginning at 9:15 a.m. For more information, contact Karla Herrington at 816-333-4917 or [karlah@cccckc.org](mailto:karlah@cccckc.org).

### TGIF – This Group Is Fun

**Fri., Oct. 23, 6:00 p.m.**

Families with children 6 and under are invited to join this group that meets the fourth Friday of the month for food, fun, and fellowship hosted in members' homes. Fri., Oct. 23 will be hosted by Maria and Doug Hedrick at their home (8832 Fairway Street) 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 816-333-4917 or [marymargareth@cccckc.org](mailto:marymargareth@cccckc.org).

### Advent in Advance

**Sun., Nov. 22, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

Kids and parents prepare for the Advent season by creating an Advent worship center, adding the three Wise Ones to their crèche, and making gifts for homebound members. A light lunch will be served. Cost is \$15 per family for lunch and supplies.

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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**  
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**Ms. Lisa McCleish**  
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Director of Church Growth

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The Country Club Christian: Copy must reach this office by Monday ten days prior to publication. Editor: Lara Schopp, [laras@cccckc.org](mailto:laras@cccckc.org)

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## Food Drive on October 18

On Sun., Oct. 18, please bring your nonperishable food items for our collection for local food pantries that serve the homeless and hungry. Vans will be in the parking lot to receive your food or it can be placed in the barrels located at the east and north doors. We also purchase food in case lots for the pantries, so cash donations are welcome. Please mark your donation "Food Drive."

## Our Church Family Sympathy

MARTHA HOOPMAN passed away Sept. 25. She is survived by a daughter, Kathleen D. Nollson, and a son, Richard F. Hoopman. Services were Oct. 2 in the Chapel, Rev. Carla Aday officiating.

HELEN M. LITTLE passed away Oct. 2. She is survived by a daughter, Nancy Grisham. Services were Oct. 5 at Mt. Moriah, Dr. Charles Rolan officiating.

MAYNARD C. MILLER passed away Sept. 28. He is survived by a son, Joe Miller. Services were Oct. 10 in St. Joseph, MO.

## Memorials

NORMA "BUNNY"  
CORBIN

Peggy Curtis

DAVID L. ARMS

Mary & Jorge Vizcarra

HELEN M. LITTLE

Tri C's Sunday School Class

**Congregational Care**

**Memorial Fund**

MARTHA E. HOOPMAN

Marilyn & Harold Sampson

Bill & Ruby Jane Scott

Mary Jo Rahatz