

April 17, 2024

Dear CONNECT Family,



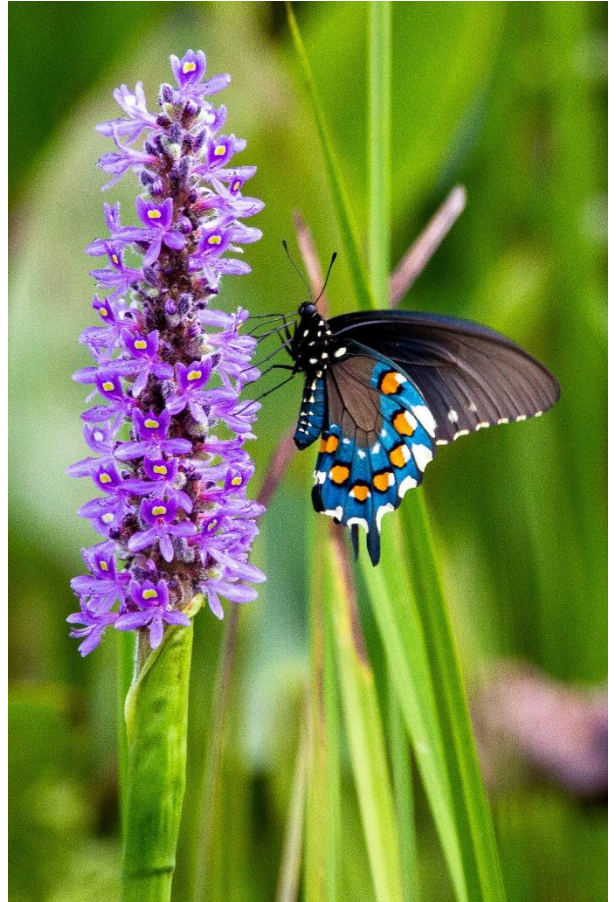
A Blessing for Creation!

May the butterfly teach you joy,
the bee teach you community,
the wave of grass in the wind teach you presence,
and the trees teach you rootedness.
And may they find in you a teacher, too.
Teach them in your actions about love,
in your voice about gentleness,
in your eyes about beauty.
So that you walk together with all of creation:
harmony.

Family Spiritual Practice

Faith Talk:

This week, I invite you to be a witness to the love of Christ to the people you encounter, or anyone you know is sick and shut in. Though we may not be able to heal everyone, we can share the love of Christ with others during times of sickness. Send a card to let the person know that she or he is loved, remembered, and prayed for.



What I am reading:

Here: [The dot We Call Home.](#) A beautiful children's book by Laura Alary (Author), Cathrin Peterslund (Illustrator).

What I am watching

Besides helping someone, doing a good deed warms your own heart and makes you feel good. Helping others gives you a new perspective and keeps you from focusing on your problems. This [short video](#) shows us that simply sharing with others what we can, makes a difference.

[The World Is Incomprehensible Beautiful!](#)

Quote, I've Been Thinking About:

"We take care of the future best by taking care of the present now."
- Jon Kabat-Zinn

WHAT WE ARE WONDERING ABOUT

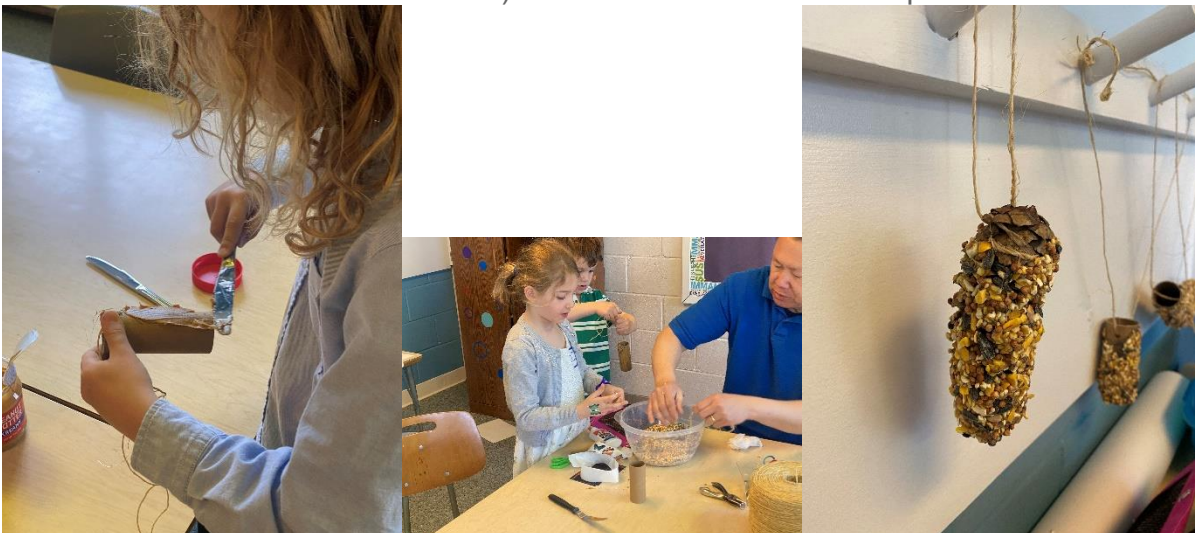
April Faith Word: SHARE!



Last Sunday:

Last Sunday, during CONNECT, we wondered about the Bible story where Jesus gathered his eleven disciples around him on a mountaintop in Galilee. Jesus commissions his disciples with the task of forming a community of believers. This community is to embody Jesus' presence in the world to strengthen and guide God's children. A commission is a call to something God wants you to do. God commissions all of us to share Jesus with the whole world. We do this in many ways, such as ministry and showing kindness, love, and respect.

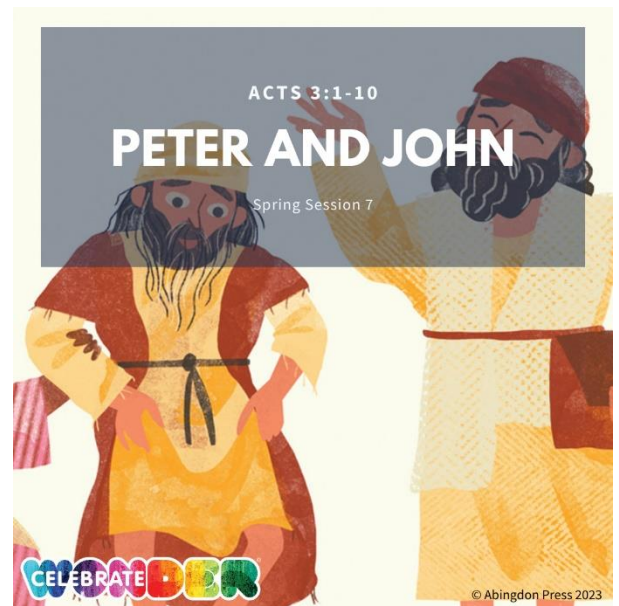
In our sharing of God's love, we made some simple bird feeders (some were hanged outside the church and some were taken home) and built stories of our interpretation of the Great Commission.





This Sunday:

This Sunday, our story will illustrate the wonders of Jesus and his amazing power to heal. The Scripture story is found in the book of Acts 3:1-10. In the story, when a man who is crippled sees Peter and John, he immediately asks them for money (or a "gift"). Peter tells the man that they have no money for him and instead offers him something better. Peter commands the man to rise in the name of Jesus. The man is healed by the power of Jesus and begins to walk, leap, and praise God.



Coming Up

- April 21 - CONNECT - 9 AM**
Peter and John - Acts 3:1-10

- April 28 - CONNECT - 9 AM**
Believers Share - Acts 4:32-3

- May 05 - NO CONNECT - ALL WORSHIP TOGETHER - 9 AM**
Communion Sunday

- May 12 - CONNECT - 9 AM**
The Church Grows - Acts 9:26-31

May 19 - **CONNECT - 9 AM**
Pentecost! - Acts 2:1-12

May 26 - **CONNECT - 10 AM - One Service**
Love in Action - Romans 12:9-18

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Messy Church this past Sunday was amazing again!
Check it out [HERE](#)

Join us for our next session on May 12th!



Wonderful online classes

Michigan State University Extension Child and Family Development Offerings

Extension Extra's Parenting Hour

These free online parenting workshops will provide guidance for parents of young children as they navigate the challenges, concerns, and joys of parenting. Participants may register for as few or as many workshops as they wish. The workshops are on Tuesday evenings from 8:00 to 9:30PM EST as follows:

Class dates:

- 4/23/2024: Parenting in the Digital Age Part 2 (children 9-17)
- **Class Times:** 8:00PM to 9:30PM
- **Registration:** https://msu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_viGxTElqSdKY2cEX2EhVbQ#/registration
- Attached are flyers for these workshops and graphics for social media
- For more information contact Courtney Aldrich at aldric82@msu.edu

The Parent Talk System

Do you feel like the children in your care aren't listening to you? Do you find yourself constantly repeating yourself trying to gain compliance? This 6-week series is for parents and caregivers of children of all ages and is designed to improve communication and provide practical verbal strategies for raising confident, caring, responsible children. Topics include eliminating unwanted behavior, setting limits, teaching about consequences, giving effective feedback, promoting independence, and developing character. Certificates of attendance are available.

- **Class dates:** April 5, 12, 19, 26, May 3, May 10
- **Class times:** 11:30am-1:00pm ET
- **Registration:** https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bj8nWuROCeXu6vY
- Attached is a flyer and graphics for social media
- For more information, contact Courtney Aldrich, aldric82@msu.e

Check out more classes [HERE](#) and [HERE](#)

Kinship Caregiver workshops

Are a free online series of workshops that provide guidance for caregivers of children as they navigate the joys, challenges, and concerns of raising children.

Participants may register for as few or as many workshops as they wish. The workshops are once monthly on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 PM EST as follows:

April-June Class dates:

- 5/8/2024: Introduction to Adverse and Positive Childhood Experiences
- 6/12/2024: Mindfulness for Children

Class Times: 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7:00PM to 8:30PM

Registration: https://msu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_msxyZuH0QeS9MsKaD_y7Tg

WATCH:

Online CONNECT Services:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O6qd849KxIk>

You can find all our videos on the CFUMC YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-oDHg9zalmC42npYW0EvTA>

Follow us on Instagram

- **Instagram** - follow us on Instagram <http://instagram.com/chelseafumc.children>

Love and Peace,
Susan



Ordinary people learning to love like Jesus.