

April 24, 2024

Dear **CONNECT** Family,

Breathe in,  
Let the presence of God  
Fill you with light and life and beauty.  
Breathe out  
Let the faithfulness of God  
Inspire you with strength and purpose and hope.  
Breathe in  
Let the mystery of God  
Nourish you with awe and wonder and joy.  
Breathe out  
Let the glory of God  
Delight you with praise and worship and  
adoration.  
-Christine Sine



## *Family Spiritual Practice*

### Faith Talk:

This week, I invite you to have your awe and wonder sighting on. Take notice. Our daily experiences of life, God, and God's world are meant to inspire us with awe and wonder. This week, as we celebrated Earth Day on April 22nd, it is a good time to re-attune our senses and a fitting way to begin our awe and wonder challenge. We are still in Eastertide too, a great season for noticing and responding in awe to the presence of Jesus in us, and around us, not just in people we meet but in the creation as well. Jesus is constantly appearing in our midst but we rarely seem to take notice. What might God be using to catch your eye and draw you closer?

### What I am reading:

[The Circles All Around Us](#) by [Brad Montague](#) (Author, Illustrator), [Kristi Montague](#) (Illustrator)

### What I am watching

[Giving Is Better](#) an original story and song from Little Arrow!

Acts of kindness show the love of Jesus to others.

The [Gift of Giving](#) is an inspiring story that emphasizes the joy of giving and helping others.

### Quote, I've Been Thinking About:

"We're all assigned a piece of garden, a corner of the universe that is ours to transform. Our corner of the universe is our own life - our relationships, our homes, our work, our current

circumstances - exactly as they are. Every situation we find ourselves in is an opportunity, perfectly planned by the Holy Spirit, to teach love instead of fear."

-Marianne Williamson

**WHAT WE ARE WONDERING ABOUT**

April Faith Word: **SHARE!**



**Last Sunday:**

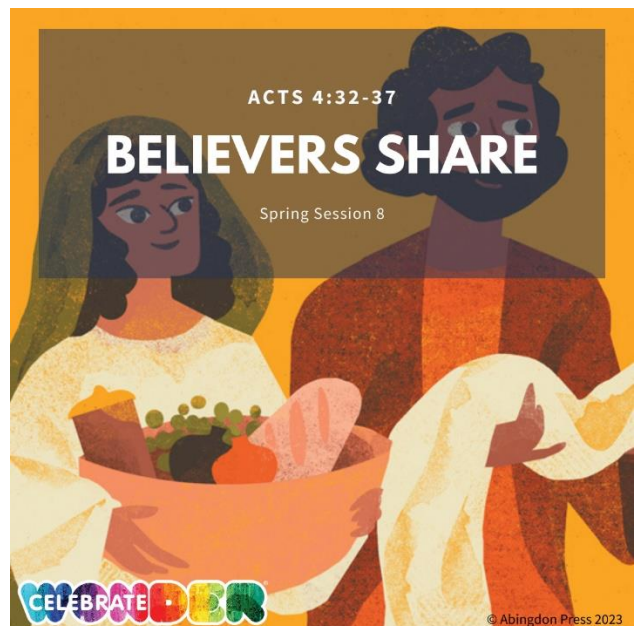
Last Sunday, during CONNECT, our story illustrated the wonders of Jesus and his amazing power to heal. The Scripture story is found in the book of Acts 3:1-10. In the story, when a man who is crippled sees Peter and John, he immediately asks them for money (or a "gift"). Peter tells the man that they 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.





**This Sunday:**

This Sunday, the story will be from the book of Acts 4:32-37. It highlights the way the early Christians worked together for the good of everyone in their community. They shared and looked out for one another. Sharing was a way of showing love and friendship.



**Coming Up**

- 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!**



## **SUMMER CONNECT VOLUNTEERS**

As we prepare for an exciting summer in the Children's Ministry Program, we're reaching out to invite you to join our volunteer team!

### **Why volunteer?**

So you can make a positive difference in the lives of young people and have some fun along the way. Please consider. Sign up [HERE](#)

## **Community Service Project**

**Monday, April 29, 2024**

**9:00 am to 1:00 pm**

**CFUMC Social Hall**

We will work on tie fleece blankets for "Donate for Life". Donate for Life gifts blankets to families of people who recently passed away. We are hoping to complete at least 100 blankets. The fleece is provided by Donate for Life and the work of many hands is needed by Material Girls and others in the community.

All ages are welcome to come. Bring your friends, children, and grandchildren! Chelsea Schools does not have a class that day. We are expecting some CHS students and Chelsea Girl Scouts (children under 7 should be accompanied by an adult one on one).

## **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.

## Class dates:

### 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](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](mailto: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:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month, 7:00PM to 8:30PM

**Registration:** [https://msu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_msxyZuH0QeS9MsKaD\\_y7Tg](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-oDHg9zaImC42npYW0EvTA>

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.**

