

April 3, 2024

Dear CONNECT Family,



You show me the path of life.
“In your presence there is fullness
of joy.” – Psalm 16:11



Family Spiritual Practice

Faith Talk:

This week, I invite you to pause, listen, and pay attention to those little invitations to turn friends. The small choices are where it's at.

Native Americans say that if you wish to appreciate your life, you must look at everything twice. If you believe that not only is God everywhere but you can spot the Divine presence every moment of your day, you will never see things the same way again.

In your relationship with the Divine, you find the promise of a new life and many chances to start over again. Each week is a gift. Begin it with a blessing:

"May a benevolent vision take hold of me and move me.

May a deep and full vision come over me.
and bust open around me.

May a luminous vision inform me, enfold me."

— David Abram in The Open Gate

What I am reading:

[Make Your Mark, Make a Difference: A Kid's Guide to Standing Up for People, Animals, and the Planet](#) by Joan Marie Galat. This book provides readers with tools to become informed and effective activists with an accessible approach offering hope and perspective.

What I am watching

Celebrate Earth Month, all of April, with this [collection from PBS](#). See all the spectacular things the natural world has to offer and learn about how our climate is changing from the perspective of climate scientists.

Quote, I've Been Thinking About:

"God has created us so we do small things with great love. I believe in that great love, that comes, or should come from our heart, should start at home: with my family, my neighbors across the street, and those right next door. And this love should then reach everyone."

— Mother Teresa in *Mother Teresa: Caring for the World's Poor* by Louise Chipley Slavicek

WHAT WE ARE WONDERING ABOUT

April Faith Word: **SHARE!**



Last Sunday:

Last Sunday, we celebrated Easter! Christ is Risen!

We have many ways of remembering Jesus' resurrection. Resurrection can remind us that with each new day, there is an opportunity to see God's goodness and to share that goodness with others. God continues to give us new life, exemplified in the story of Jesus' resurrection.

We may also shout, "Christ is risen!" to remind ourselves and one another of the many ways God offers us new life through the life of Jesus.





This Sunday:

This Sunday, we will be worshipping together in the Sanctuary. It is Communion Sunday - all are invited.

Our focus will be on the Scripture of John 21:1-19
Jesus loves us & wants us to love him, too.

Coming Up

April 07 - NO CONNECT - ALL WORSHIP TOGETHER - 9 AM
Communion Sunday

April 14 - CONNECT - 9 AM
The Great Commission - Matthew 28:16-20

- 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 was great fun!

Check it out [HERE!](#)

The next Session will be on **April 14!** You don't want to miss it. Invite a friend to come along.



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:

- 3/26/2024: Supporting Children Through Grief and Loss (Guest Expert)
- 4/02/2024: Positive Discipline
- 4/09/2024: Parenting in the Digital Age Part 1 (children 0-8 years old)
- 4/16/2024: Importance of Outdoor Play
- 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_viGxTEIqSdKY2cEX2EhVbQ#/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:

- 4/10/2024: Parenting in the Digital Age
- 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=AxZhvHVXG3Q>

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.