

May 8, 2024

Dear CONNECT Family,



Family Spiritual Practice

Faith Talk:

This week, reflect on the different ways to show love. Journal about the ways you love people in your life. Are there other ways you are called to love? Is there someone you need to stand up for? Is there someone you need to share God's love with, as Paul shared God's love through speaking? Challenge yourself to love in different situations.



What I am reading/listening:

This [episode](#) on Hidden Brain with psychologist [Guy Itzchakov](#) helps us understand where interactions go awry, and how to become a more attentive listener.

Have you ever sat across from your spouse, colleague or friend and realized that while they may be hearing what you're saying, they aren't actually listening? Poor listening can lead to arguments, hurt feelings, and fractured relationships. But the good news is that active, thoughtful listening can profoundly benefit both people in the conversation.

What I am watching

[What Children Teach Us About Love](#)

[The Pencil's Tale - a story that everyone should hear](#)

[Slapstick Theater - Paul and Barnabas](#)

Quote, I've Been Thinking About

"When you feel yourself breaking down, may you break open instead. May every experience in life be a door that opens your heart, expands your understanding, and leads you to freedom."
-Elizabeth Lesser

WHAT WE ARE WONDERING ABOUT

May Faith Word: LOVE

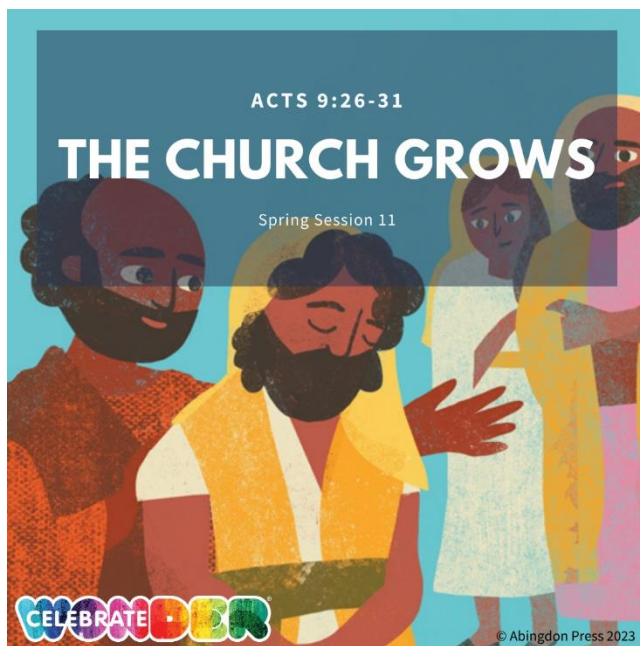


Last Sunday:

Last Sunday, we worshiped together in the Sanctuary. It was Communion Sunday. The message was based on the Scripture of Philippians 3:10-16. If you would like to watch the service, click [**HERE**](#).

This Sunday:

This Sunday, we will wonder about the story based on the book of Acts 9:26-31. The story says that Paul tries to join the other disciples when he arrives in Jerusalem, but they doubt Paul's sincerity as a disciple of Jesus. The courage Barnabas shows in standing up in love for his friend, Paul, greatly impacts the new church. Love can look different things in different situations. We may be called on to love people in their lives in different ways, at different times, but all forms of love are valid.



Coming Up

- 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

END-OF-YEAR-PICNIC

Hard to believe but the school year is coming to an end soon. We want to celebrate our children and families with a picnic with pizza, playing in the park, and walking over to Twisters for delicious ice cream. Please RSVP so we can plan accordingly for food.

MAY 24 - 4:30 TO 6:30PM

Please sign up [HERE](#)

MESSY CHURCH



Messy Church experience.

Check it out [HERE](#)

Join us for our next session on **May 12th!**

We will celebrate the many ways people from all over the world are united through the Holy Spirit!



Celebrate One Uniting Holy Spirit

Pentecost

May 12, 2024

4:00 - 6:00 pm



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](#)

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:** May 16, 23, 30, June 6, 13, 20
- **Class times:** 7:30pm-9:00pm ET
- **Registration:** https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bj8nWuROCeXu6vY
- For more information, contact Courtney Aldrich, aldric82@msu.e

Guiding Principles for Highly Successful Parenting

Are you wondering how to gain greater cooperation from your children? Struggling with chores or routines? Not sure how to handle discipline issues? Join us for this five-week parenting education series for parents with children of all ages will explore developing routines, emotional control, rules and relationships, and being a calm, assertive parent. Certificates of attendance are available.

- **Class Dates:** Wednesdays, May 29, June 5, 12, 19, 26
- Class Times: 11:30am-1:00pm ET
- Register at: https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0VpZf3ks77yZZGu
- Attached is a flyer and graphics for social media
- For more information contact Courtney Aldrich at aldric82@msu.edu

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:

June Class dates:

6/12/2024: Mindfulness for Children

- Class Time: 7:00PM to 8:30PM

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

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=HrDKHr1cw2E>

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.