

July 24, 2024

Dear CONNECT Family,



***Family Spiritual Practice***

**Faith Talk:**

This week, I invite you to embrace and reflect in the abundant life Jesus promises through a holistic approach to faith, relationships, and personal well-being. It involves not just receiving the fullness of life personally but also sharing that fullness with others in love and service.

Throughout your week and days, practice being mindful of God's presence and guidance in your life. Take moments to pause and reflect on how God is working in and through you.



***What I am reading/listening:***

Wondering what else you could start during Summer time that your children will thank you later? Want to prepare your kids for their future? Then give them something to do now that will let them feel a part of your house. Look [HERE](#) at Work Kids Can Do + Chore Chart.

**[Songs to Help Kids Love God: 14 Artist to Know](#)**

**[The Recipe for Childlike Wonder: Uncertainty](#)**

***What I am watching***

**[The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse - Look to the Dawn](#)** inspired in one of my favorite books of the same title.

Here an [interview](#) with the author of the book above mentioned, British artist Charlie Mackesy.

***Quote, I've Been Thinking About***

**"Grateful hearts truly love. Grateful hands reach out. Grateful eyes see generations. Grateful minds imagine big ideas like justice, peace, and health. Our world needs no less than grateful living."  
- Katie Steedly Curling**

**WHAT WE ARE WONDERING ABOUT**

**July Faith Theme: CELEBRATE!**



**July is a month to celebrate!**

The heart of worship is celebration! We celebrate who God is, what God has done for us in Jesus, and the new Spirit-filled lives we get to live because of it. By taking time to celebrate God's gifts to us - gifts of diversity, unity, promise, and new life - we are attuning ourselves to the good things in life so that, even in times of struggle and hardship, we can be sustained.

Let's celebrate together this July in worship!

**Last Sunday:**

Last Sunday, we wondered about the Scripture of Romans 4:3, 13:25.

Abraham was a very special person to God. God promised Abraham that he would have a son, even though Abraham and his wife Sarah were very old and thought they couldn't have children anymore. Abraham believed God's promise, even though it seemed impossible. And because he believed, God counted Abraham as a good person, not because of what he did, but because of his faith and trust in God.

God's promise wasn't just for Abraham and his family, but for everyone who believes in God like Abraham did. It tells us that God's promise comes because of faith, not because we earn it by doing good things. It's all about trusting and believing in God's promises, just like Abraham did. God blesses us with love.

We made necklaces and bracelets to remind us of God's promises.





**This Sunday:**

This Sunday, we will wonder about the Scripture of John 10:10.

Imagine a world where every morning feels like a brand-new adventure, where every sunset whispers secrets of tomorrow. In John 10:10, Jesus says something incredible: "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

What does that mean? It means life isn't just about waking up and going through the motions. It's about living each day with eyes wide open, ready to discover, learn, and grow. It's about finding joy in the little things—the flutter of a butterfly's wings, the laughter of a friend, or the colors of a rainbow after the rain.

Jesus wants us to experience life in all its wonder and beauty. Jesus wants us to explore, dream, and believe that each day holds something special just for us. So, let's embrace each moment with excitement and curiosity, knowing that God's love fills our days with endless possibilities.



**Coming Up**

- July 28th -           CONNECT - 10 AM**  
Reset Direction - John 10:10
- August 4th -           NO CONNECT - 10 AM**  
Genuine Faith - James 2:1-7; 14-17
- August 11th -         CONNECT - 10 AM**  
Do No Harm - James 3:1-12
- August 18th -         CONNECT - 10 AM**  
Do Good - James 3:13-18
- August 25th -         CONNECT - 10 AM**  
Stay in Love With God - James 5:13-20

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**MESSY CHURCH**



**Next Messy Church Session: August 11th!**

A promotional banner with a blue background. On the left, there is a "BACK TO SCHOOL" graphic with a yellow ribbon and a "Messy Church" logo. The main text reads "A NEW BEGINNING" in bold black letters, followed by "August 11, 2024" and "4:00 - 6:00 pm" in bold black letters. Below this, it says "Chelsea First UMC" and "128 Park Street". At the bottom left, there is a small "CHELSEA FIRST" logo.

**BACK TO SCHOOL**

**A NEW BEGINNING**

**August 11, 2024**

**4:00 - 6:00 pm**

Chelsea First UMC  
128 Park Street

CHELSEA FIRST

## **SUMMER CONNECT VOLUNTEERS**

As we continue to plan 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:** Wednesdays, July 10, 17, 24, 31, August 7, 14
- **Class times:** 11:30am-1:00pm ET
- **Registration:** [https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_0VpZf3ks77yZZGu](https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0VpZf3ks77yZZGu)
- For more information, contact Courtney Aldrich, [aldric82@msu.e](mailto: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:** Mondays, July 15, 22, 29, August 5, 12

- Class Times: 7:30pm-9:00pm ET
- Register at: [https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_0VpZf3ks77yZZGu](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](mailto:aldric82@msu.edu)

### **Kinship Caregiver workshops**

Kinship Caregiver classes are targeted to relatives caring for another relative's children.

#### **Workshop:**

#### **7/10/2024: Positive Discipline**

- Class Time: 7:00PM to 8:30PM
- **Registration:** [https://msu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_msxyZuH0QeS9MsKaD\\_y7Tg](https://msu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_msxyZuH0QeS9MsKaD_y7Tg)
- Attached are flyers and social media graphics for these workshops
- For more information contact Courtney Aldrich at [aldric82@msu.edu](mailto:aldric82@msu.edu)

#### **WATCH:**

#### **Online CONNECT Services:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EUGtjUt71TQ>

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.***