

October 9, 2024



Dear CONNECT Family,

No matter how you showed up this week, how critically you've spoken to yourself, how much you've done or left undone, you are so very loved. That truth can't be taken away.



Family Spiritual Practice

Faith Talk:

This week, I invite you to practice **Hospitality!**

We are practicing hospitality when we welcome guests — including strangers and enemies — into our lives with graciousness. An open house reveals certain things about us: we are well-disposed toward others, we focus on the positive, and we believe the universe is basically a friendly place. Sometimes hospitality requires that we cross boundaries and dismantle some of the barriers erected in our society to keep "the other" out. Sometimes it means entertaining ideas that might be alien to us. To be hospitable, you need to accept pluralism as a natural condition in the world. Celebrate the diversity of the Creation!

What I am reading/listening:

Big Life Kids Podcast - this [episode](#) takes you to Paraguay! Zara and Leo discover Los Reciclados de Cateura, the children's orchestra that uses instruments made out of recycled garbage. Follow their journey and find out how you can keep dreaming big and believing in yourself!

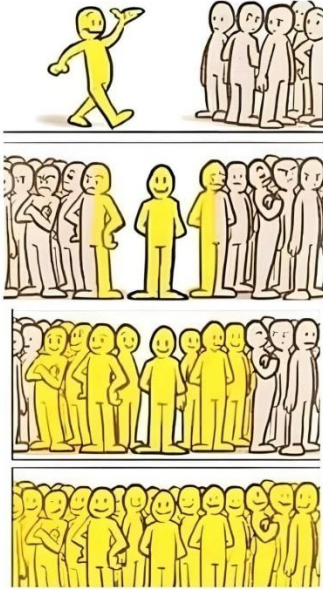
What I am watching:

[Widow who was invited to eat with strangers: "I think God sent me there"](#)

[Kindness 101: Fifth graders take action after hearing elderly couple's story](#)

Quote, I've Been Thinking About

This is how your light changes the world. ❤️



BE THE LIGHT ❤️

WHAT WE ARE WONDERING ABOUT

October Faith Theme: WELCOME ALL!

Hospitality is being intentional and authentic in offering welcome to all of God's people - stranger and friend. When we welcome *all*, we are affirming the worth of all of God's people. A commitment to opening our hearts, our homes, our churches, and our capacity for friendship and community to, not only those who are like us, but also those who are different from us is at the very heart of the practice of hospitality.

Last Sunday:

Last Sunday, we worshiped together in the Sanctuary. We celebrated World Communion Sunday - an opportunity to emphasize the unity of Christians around the globe. World Communion Sunday is also a time for outreach and support.

Worship boxes were available and ready for busy little hands to explore and engage during the service..



This Sunday:

This Sunday we will wonder about the Welcome to God's World! Although the story of creation (Genesis 1:1-2:2) may be familiar, with hospitality and welcome as our lens, we will explore this story from a different angle. This story affirms the worth and belonging in each part of creation, and that is something to celebrate and lift up. God's welcome is as abundant as God's creation is! Children will notice ways they have experiences welcome, and use those experiences to find ways to practice the same kind of welcome, both in our church and in their own daily lives.



Coming Up

October 13-

CONNECT - 9 AM

Welcome Others as God Welcomes You
Genesis 1:1-2:25, Leviticus 19:33-34

October 20-

CONNECT - 9 AM

See Christ in Every Person
Matthew 25:31-46

October 27-

CONNECT - 9 AM

Know Your Gifts of Hospitality and Encourage Others' Gifts
Luke 10:38-42

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FALL REGISTRATION: we kindly ask that you complete the registration process if you haven't done so already. Your prompt attention to this matter will help us ensure we have all the updated information needed. Thank you. Available [HERE](#)

MESSY CHURCH

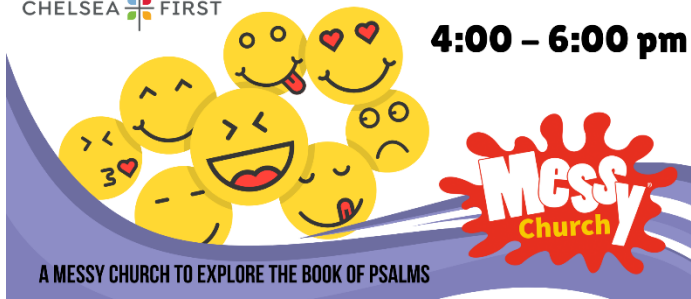


This Sunday, October 13th - Messy Church Session - 4-6PM

All Our Feelings!

CHELSEA FIRST

October 13
4:00 – 6:00 pm



Halloween Rest Stop - Oct 31, 5:30-7 PM



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 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:

11/05/2024: Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorder and Neurodiversity

11/12/2024: Purpose of Play

11/19/2024: Introduction to Positive and Adverse Childhood Experiences

11/26/2024: Together We Can: Co-Parenting

Class Times: 8:00PM to 9:30PM

Registration: https://msu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_tsaVF3uvTp2wINV5dIR2vw

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. **This class is eligible for MIRegistry Credit!**

- **Class Dates:** Tuesdays, November 12, 19, 26, December 3, 10
 - 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, aldric82@msu.edu

WATCH:

Online CONNECT Services:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0oxolw9pPCc>

<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.