

January 22, 2025

Dear CONNECT Family,
Family Spiritual Practice

Faith Talk:

This week, I invite you to get inspired by Susan Cain who writes: " **teach your children the things you love**, like music and poetry, so that one day they'll love them too. "One of my earliest memories is asking my father to play the "chair record" (Beethoven's "Emperor's" concerto, whose name I was too young to pronounce) over and over again."

What are some of the most important things your parents or other guides have taught you, or that you hope to teach other people?

What I am reading/listening:

[True, Kind, Necessary, Securing](#)

What I am watching:

Being a witness to God's love may just be [One Hug Away](#)

Quote, I've Been Thinking About...

**"Raise your words, not your voice.
It is rain that grows flowers, not thunder."
-RUMI**

WHAT WE ARE WONDERING ABOUT

January Practice Theme: MAKE DISCIPLES

Making disciples is both an inward and outward process. We show that we are following Jesus by the way we live our lives. This draws others to want to follow Jesus, as well.

Last Sunday:

Last Sunday, we wonder together about the Scripture Reading of Acts 16:1-15, where the apostle and missionary Paul and his traveling companions meet Lydia. Lydia and other women go to the river outside of town to pray because there is no synagogue where they live. Paul shares the love of Jesus, giving a foundation to the faith Lydia seeks to know more fully. In turn, she provides hospitality and support for Paul and his partners to continue their ministry.

The focus this Sunday is on discipleship outside of the home. Where do we go and how do we live our faith when we get there?



overlooked.



This Sunday:

This Sunday, we will wonder together about the Scripture Reading of John 4:5-30. In the bible story, Jesus meets a Samaritan woman at a well. He is thirsty and seeking water; she is surprised by this encounter for several reasons. She is arguably the first witness who understands who Jesus truly is. Not only is the woman a witness; Jesus, too, is a witness to the woman's faith. Being a disciple of Jesus is all about living a life of faith where others can recognize who you are by your witness.

Coming Up

January 26 -

CONNECT - 9 AM

Be a Witness - John 4:5-30

February 02 - NO CONNECT - 9 AM
All Worship Together - Communion Sunday

February 09 - CONNECT - 9 AM
Baptize - Acts 8:26-40

February 16 CONNECT - 9 AM
Teach And Learn About Jesus - Matthew 5-7 (Selected Verses)

February 23 CONNECT - 9 AM
Trust in Jesus' Presence Always - John 14:15-27

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MESSY CHURCH



February 09, 2025 - 4 to 6 PM

LISTENING TO GOD

Have you ever awoken in the middle of the night hearing someone calling your name?

February 9, 2025
4:00 - 6:00 pm

Samuel needed Eli to help him to take time to listen and then respond to the voice of God he heard calling.

The Messy Church logo is repeated in the bottom left corner of the graphic.A photograph of a man with glasses and a yellow shirt, looking surprised with his hand to his ear, as if listening intently. The photo is partially obscured by the Messy Church logo and text.

CHELSEA FIRST

PARENTS GROUP OPPORTUNITY

Caregivers/Parents Group – Starting January 2025!

We are excited to announce the launch of a new **Caregivers/Parents Group** starting in **January 13th 2025!** This group will meet every **Monday from 6:30 to 7:30 PM**, both **in-person** and **online** to accommodate everyone. Dates: 01/13, 01/20, 01/27, 02/03, 02/10, 02/17, 02/24, 03/03.

This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with other parents and caregivers, share experiences, and discuss a wide range of topics related to raising children. We'll kick off the group by reading

and discussing the book ***The Anxious Generation*** by Jonathan Haidt, which explores the challenges faced by today's youth and how we can best support them.

Whether you're looking for advice, support, or just a space to share your thoughts, we invite you to join us for this meaningful and enriching time together.

We look forward to seeing you there!

PARENT & CAREGIVERS GROUP
January 2025

Connect with other parents and caregivers, share experiences and discuss a wide range of topics related to raising children.

More information... www.chelseaumc.org/events

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89969525903?pwd=DI AoBqSa0qJ2ixNuNKaihMfBo9PS45.1>

Meeting ID: 899 6952 5903

Passcode: 656972

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:

2/04/2025: What Children Need to Know to Start School

2/11/2025: Together We Can: Co-Parenting

2/18/2025: Setting the Stage: Promoting Social Emotional Health in Young Children

2/25/2025: Reducing Challenging Behaviors in Toddlers

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: Mondays, February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 17**
- **Class Times: 7:30pm-9:00pm ET**
- **Registration:** https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_dd7Nnn1h8Y1TcNg
- 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=S7tErqlUwPk>

<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.

