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\*Sundays HS & Middle School 9:00 a.m. Room 216  
Head to the sanctuary when you arrive. You'll be dismissed from there.

**Events:**

March 2 Souper Sunday "Understanding Gender"  
March 2 Confirmation  
March 9 Children and Youth create 'cars' for Advocacy Day  
March 9 Messy Church 2 Corinthians 9:8-11  
March 16 Assemble Congregational Care Packages  
March 16 Confirmation

Final thoughts: Autism Awareness Night

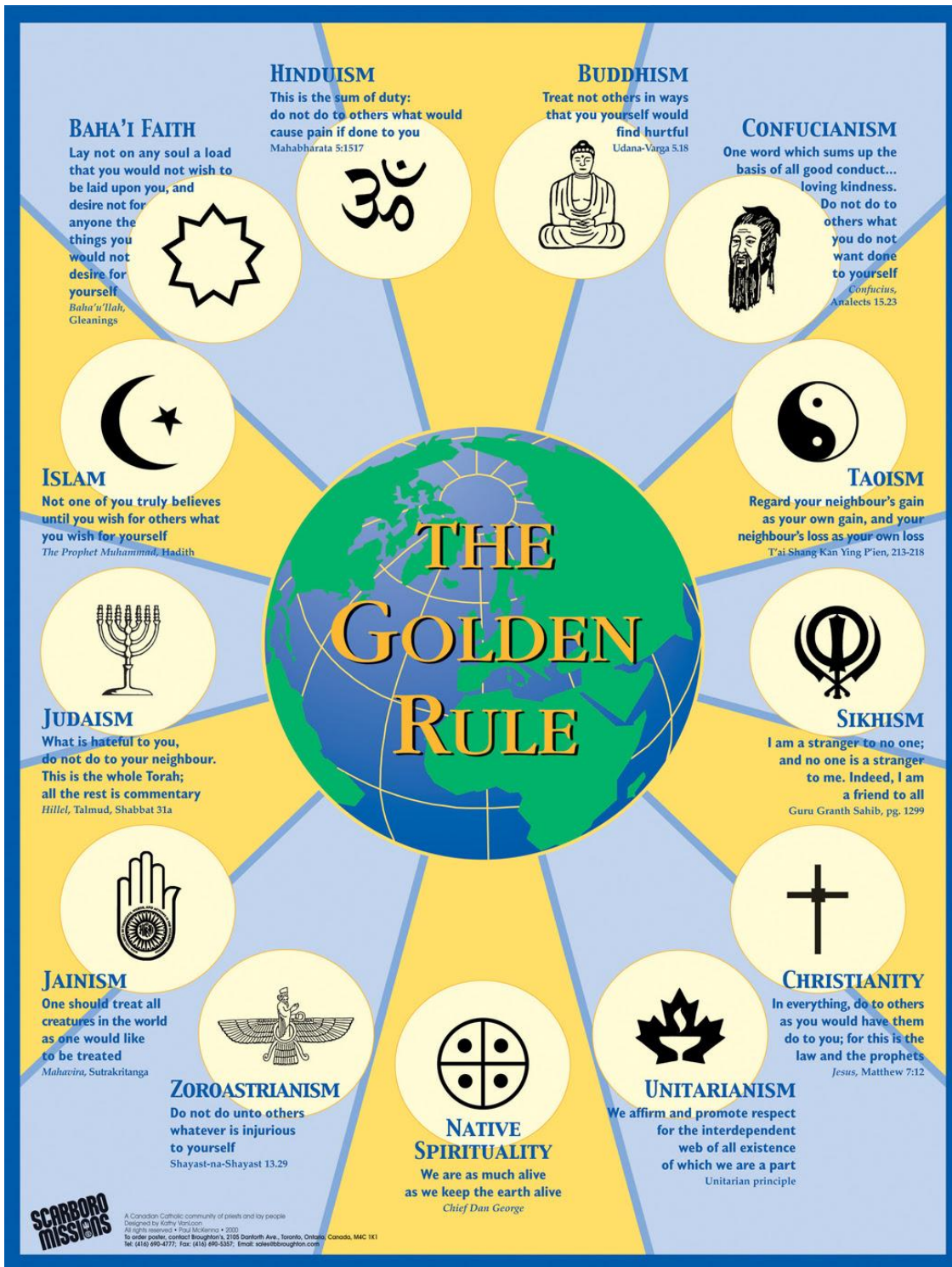
Please remember to complete a **registration form**. Click on the link below.  
Thank you so much!

**Safe Sanctuary Forms:**

[Registration Form](#)

[Event Permission Form](#)

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Love God, Neighbor, Enemy

- Week 1 Love Extravagantly Luke 6: 27-42
- Week 2 Serve a Stranger 1 Kings 17:8-16

Week 3	Show Mercy	1 Samuel 24; Luke 23:32-43
Week 4	Wash Another's Feet	John 13:1-20
Week 5	Be Courageous	Acts 6:8 - 7:2, 51-60
Week 6	Live Peaceably	Romans 12:9-21

This practice will expand conceptualizations of what it means to show love. In these six sessions, youth will explore the relationship between love and justice and discover a roadmap for showing love to God, their neighbors, and their enemies.

We shouldn't easily dismiss the language of *enemies*. First, it's the word Jesus uses; if it seems too harsh to our ears, perhaps simply associating it with people we find hard to love would be a place to start. Second, a life of robust Christian discipleship will spark opposition. If we truly have no enemies, perhaps we have conformed too much to this world, to echo the words of Paul. We can decry media depictions of Us and Them as deeply problematic while not devolving into a moral relativism that allows the gospel to become so dilute that it couldn't possibly offend anyone.

(Excerpt of Love God, Neighbor, Enemy Foundational Essay written by Maryann Dana)

**Soup-er Sunday Speaker Series**

**March 2  
5:00 pm**

**SPEAKER: Dr. Daniel Shumer**  
**“Understanding Gender”**

**Dr. Shumer is a Pediatric Endocrinologist and the Medical Director of the Child & Adolescent Gender Clinic at Mott’s Children’s Hospital.**

**CHELSEA FIRST**

For more information go to: [www.chelseaumc.org/events](http://www.chelseaumc.org/events)





Student Section giveaway shirts start at 4:30,  
Adult and Family shirt sales start at 5:00!  
srsly

 srsly

#### Autism Awareness Night Post Script -

"When we first met up, I still felt a little bit hurt by everything that had happened, but right when we had that first meeting about the event and fundraiser, things almost started to heal completely, and as the process was going on, I felt better and better knowing that I got to do something good and I got to have the ability to change the world a little bit, and I was hoping that we could just start to fix the world brick by brick, but it was so nice to see the community all pitch in and embrace the healing! And now I just feel pride instead of hurt." ~Indy Hurst

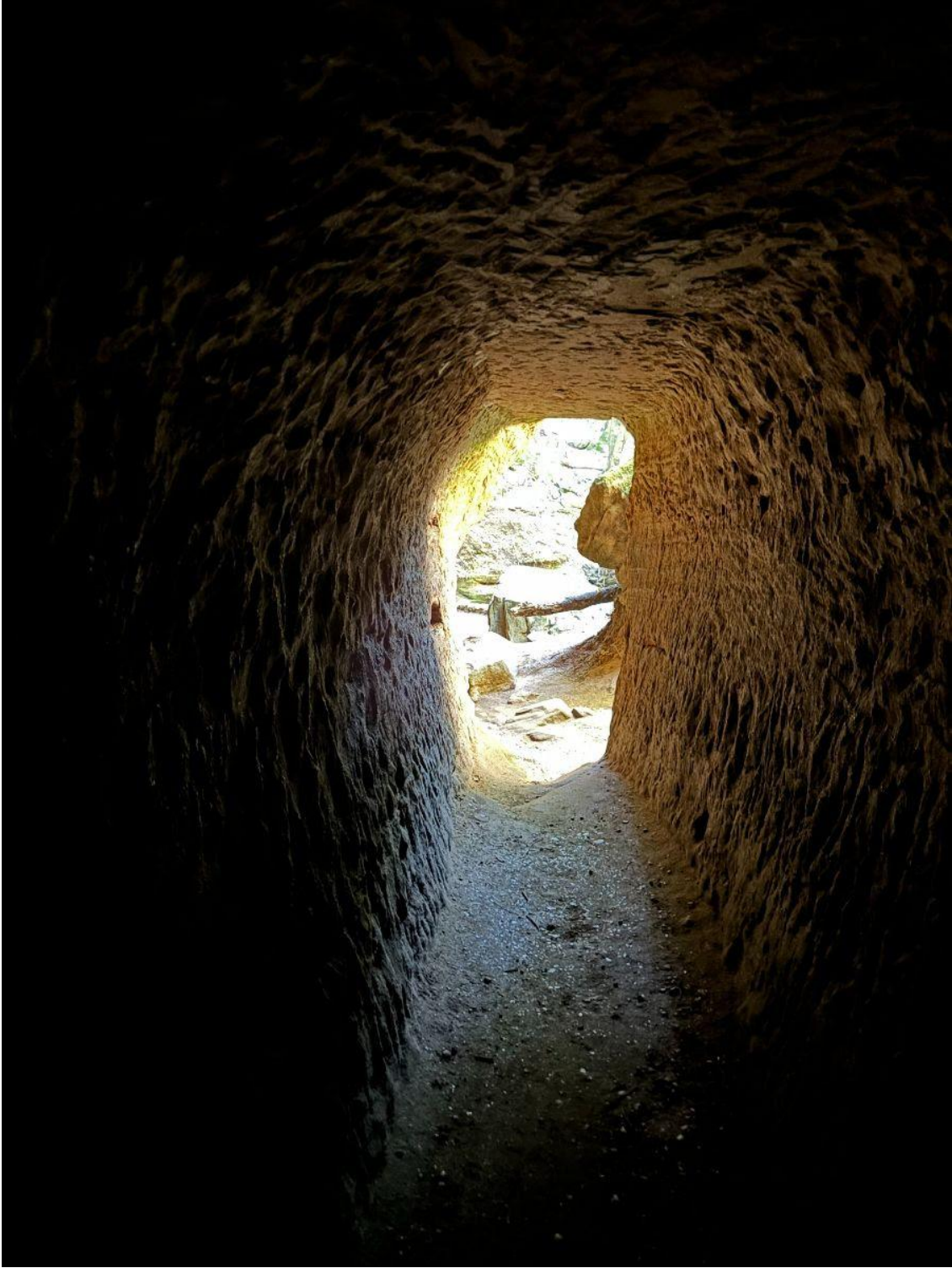
"When we first met with Kate it seemed like a lot wasn't going to change until we started the process and after that it got all better and it started to fix things around school. More people went to Bulldog Buddies and overall people learned about autism." ~ Palmer Hurst

<https://chsbleuprint.com/8531/features/the-key-to-connections-key-club-become-bulldog-buddies/>

"I remember being amazed by their resilience the first time we talked. In response to cruelty, they wanted to give kindness. As soon as i said "let's make it happen", they already had this entire plan for Chelsea's first ever Autism Awareness Night. They had the scholarship idea, the shirt design, the wristband color, the marketing, the date and time. They knew what would work. I don't think I could have predicted how much positive feedback we would receive, and I could never have predicted how much I would be personally impacted by this. I got to witness them positively influence hundreds of people in their community. I have more hope because of them. They wanted things to be better and believed they could be. The world will tell you that you can't put a dent in the brokenness, that it's not worth trying, but Palmer and Indy believed it was. And they were right. Chelsea is better because of them."



If you would like to donate to the college scholarship for a future student with autism, click on the QR code.



“But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.” Mark 9:36

The disciples had witnessed it all... crowds closing in from all around, mind blowing miracles, the mountain top radiance... filling their bellies and the soft sounds of sleep next to each other, laughter that lightened the load because there just had to be that one among them that acted the fool when things felt too heavy, dusty rock filled roads where sharing came easily *beside* instead of facing, moments where forgiveness opened healing wide and connected all the dots of belonging... these are the moments I imagine among human beings alongside the One they had come to know as friend.

Mission trips are like that... an invitation, the willingness to leave the security of self and enter a ‘forced’ togetherness that becomes connectedness in purpose that becomes the remembrance of belonging. It’s easy conversation with a cup of coffee on the deck of a dining hall in Tennessee at too early o’clock as the fog rises lazily beyond the stream like an Appalachian blanket lifting from the mountains unfolding a new day. It’s the laughter as the Durango reverberates the rhythm of Motown while kids from here to Kansas join a melody that belongs to voices as loud as their hearts can sing. It’s glancing in the rearview to see teenagers draped over each other, sharing space and blankets and sound sleep, secure in the knowledge that they are not alone. It’s offering presence in the face of poverty and in that; dignity, and a story that weaves us in and through their pages... and their story becomes ours. It is an intimacy that time unfolds in the offering of proximity.

Jesus dared to share his heart about the days to come. Betrayal, death, and new life that rewrote the narrative.

But they didn’t understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask.

So what did they do as they continued down the road?

They argued with one another who was the greatest.

Here’s the thing, they didn’t pass notes, didn’t hiss it in lowered tones, didn’t toss some hand signals between them. They argued about who was the greatest within earshot of the One who had just shared from the depths of vulnerability a vision of the days ahead.

But they didn’t understand, and they were afraid to ask. Afraid to ask. Why?

Later that day, Jesus asked them what they were arguing about and they clammed up.

He gathered them together and said, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” He then took a child into his arms. (the brilliance of a teacher who appeals to all of the senses) “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me”

One such child...

I wonder if on some level they did understand that uncertainty was soon to consume their world. Did it gnaw at the back of their minds until fear demanded the group grasp for straws of



superiority? Trusting is far scarier than the illusion of power and control. I guess I'd be afraid to ask for clarification too. What if it requires something more?

Three times it arises in scripture.

They argued with one another as to who was the greatest.

And in each case, Jesus offered the example and life of a child beloved.

So did God.

#I'm searching for Jesus

## Growing Generosity

March 9, 2025

4:00 - 6:00 pm

*As we follow Jesus, we give generously to each other and plant seeds of kindness upon the earth.*

CHELSEA  FIRST







We had the privilege of attending a Shabbat service and spending time in conversation afterward with Rabbi Josh at Temple Beth Emeth. What a gift to experience the gracious hospitality and worship together. Shabbat Shalom.



**Dr. Laurie Santos** 



## **The Science of Well-Being for Teens**

**The most popular class in Yale University's history. Now free for teens.**

### **Thrive in high school and beyond.**

In this 6-week course, Dr. Laurie Santos brings together the best insights from her popular Yale course Psychology and the Good Life - now re-designed specifically for teenagers.

This course will share evidence-based strategies for feeling happier in high school and beyond. Learn about common **misconceptions** about happiness; **biases** that get in the way of happiness; **behaviors, thoughts, and feelings** that lead to happiness; and how we can achieve our happiness **goals**. By the end, you will learn a set of tools for feeling better and building healthier habits.



### **Teens are experiencing a mental health crisis**

A recent survey found that 37% of teens say they have poor mental health. Explore what the field of psychology teaches us about how to be happier, how to feel less stressed, and how to thrive in high school and beyond.

### **Feel better. Build healthier habits.**

#### **Misconceptions**

Discover what it means to be happy. Examine misconceptions about money, grades, and social media that hold us back.

#### **Biases**

Learn how biases affect our happiness. Explore strategies for healthier comparisons and dealing with our limited attention.

#### **Strategies**

Uncover how we can harness our behaviors, thought patterns, and emotions to boost our happiness and experience better moods.

Feel Better. Build healthier habits.

<https://www.drlauriasantos.com/science-well-being-teens>

Yes, I enrolled. No, I did not agree to be a part of the research study.

Yes. I can't recommend this highly enough. Yes.

If you're looking for the teachings of Jesus and meta analytics, this is your one stop shop.

You'll find the link to enroll in the link above.



Life is big, screens are small...  
and you deserve to live your fullest life.

<https://screensanity.org/tool/smarterstart/>