

February 5, 2025

Dear CONNECT Family,

Family Spiritual Practice

Faith Talk:

This week, I invite you to check out this [CALENDAR - 28 Days of Loving More](#) created by Kate Bowler.

Love—real love—is inconvenient, awkward, and sometimes feels like trying to hug a porcupine. But it's also the thing that can keep us from unraveling.



Love isn't about grand gestures. It's about the weird, small ways we show up for each other. Compliment someone's parallel parking. Recreate an old photo just because it makes you laugh. Dance to one song at full volume. (You'll feel ridiculous. Do it anyway.)

What I am reading/listening:

[I Am the Spirit of Justice by Jemar Tisby, with Malcolm Newsome. Illustrated by Nadia Fisher.](#)

[Baptized in the Water by Glenys Nellist](#)

What I am watching:

[Be righteous for the people around you](#)

[Baptism -- Chuck Knows Church](#)

Quote, I've Been Thinking About...

"When you do things from your soul, the river itself moves through you. Freshness and a deep joy are signs of the current."

-Rumi

WHAT WE ARE WONDERING ABOUT

January/February 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 Luke 19:1-9 - A Rich Tax Collector. We worshipped together.

Listening to Jesus can lead to a change of heart, and acting on that change makes a real difference. Just like Zacchaeus, we can make a choice to live in a way that reflects God's love and grace.





This Sunday:

This Sunday, we will wonder together about Baptism. Our Baptism probably didn't/won't look like Jesus', but just like Jesus, we belong to God's family and are sent out to share God's love. Baptism is also a commitment to a community of faith, that the person being baptized will participate in the life of the congregation and use their God-given gifts to enrich the life of the community. When you become a part of a church community, you have a responsibility to care for others and to do your best to serve your church and help fulfill its mission.

Coming Up

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

March 02 NO CONNECT - 9 AM Worship
Worship Together - Communion Sunday

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MESSY CHURCH



THIS SUNDAY - 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.

Messy Church

CHELSEA FIRST

The graphic features a man with glasses and a surprised expression, with his hand to his ear. The background is a colorful geometric pattern of red, yellow, and blue shapes. The Messy Church logo is repeated in the bottom left corner, and the Chelsea First logo is in the bottom right corner.

PARENTS GROUP OPPORTUNITY

Caregivers/Parents Group – Come join us! IN PERSON or ONLINE

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:

3/04/2025: Exploring Parenting Styles

3/11/2025: Talking With Kids About Race

3/18/2025: Parenting in the Digital Age

3/25/2025: Importance of Outdoor Play

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=-U_A4Y1chks

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-oDHg9zalmC42npYW0EvTA>

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.

