

March 12, 2025

Dear **CONNECT** Family,  
**Family Spiritual Practice**

**Faith Talk:**

This week, I'm offering you a Lenten Devotional titled '[The Hardest Part](#)' - by Kate Bowler. If you haven't yet chosen a devotional for this Lent or are still considering your options, this one is one of my favorites.



**What I am reading/listening:**

[Peg Gets Plucky](#), by Jo Renfro encourages little ones to keep going when they doubt their own capabilities.

[What a Beautiful Name](#), by Brooke Ligertwood, Ben Fielding, Karalee Fielding and Scott Ligertwood. Illustrated by Scott Ligertwood.

**What I am watching:**

[What to Give Up for Lent with Fr. James Martin](#)

[Springing into Spring! - Adorable](#)

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



## WHAT WE ARE WONDERING ABOUT

### **March Practice Theme: WALK HUMBLY**

Walking humbly means drawing closer to God and intentionally living more and more into our identity as children of God. It is a balance between not belittling or discounting our gifts and uniqueness while understanding that we are human, just like everyone else.

### **Last Sunday:**

Last Sunday, we reflected on the Scripture reading from Luke 12:13-21. Our focus was on cultivating gratitude and recognizing all that we have as a gift from God. We explored what it means to walk humbly with God and how true gratitude involves honoring God in all things. We talked about Advocacy and what it means.

We also created cards (in the shape of a car) to be placed on the lawn of the State Capitol TODAY in Lansing, where United Methodists and friends across Michigan will join in an Advocacy Day and call for justice and compassion. You can read more about it [HERE](#).







**This Sunday:**

This Sunday, we will reflect on the Scripture reading from 1 Samuel 3. God often chooses unassuming, ordinary people to do remarkable things. In the Scripture, God calls a boy, Samuel, to be a prophet and speak God's words. Children live in the paradox of having fewer resources than the world acknowledges as good--less money, less voice, less power--and yet can be quite effective when they feel called to serve, see an injustice, or want to make the world a better place. Children can be encouraged and challenged to use their skills and abilities to make a difference in their communities.



### **Coming Up**

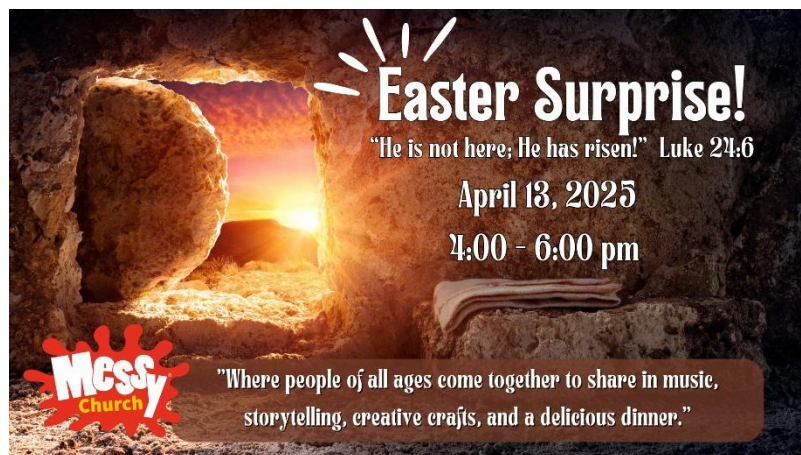
- March 16**            **CONNECT - 9 AM**  
Be Unapologetically You - 1 Samuel 3
- March 23**            **CONNECT - 9 am**  
Receive Blessings - Joshua 2:1-24; 6:22-25
- March 30**            **CONNECT - 9 AM**  
Be Quiet - Luke 24:13-35
- April 06**            **NO CONNECT - 9AM**  
All Worship Together - Communion Sunday

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

### **MESSY CHURCH**



April 13, 2025



### **March 16th - CONNECT Time: Assembly of Care Packages**

During our CONNECT time on March 16th, we will be assembling small care packages in collaboration with the Congregational Care Team. These packages will be distributed to some of our congregation members as a token of love and support during this season of Lent and Easter. We invite all children to participate in assembling the packages, and families are encouraged to help deliver these thoughtful gifts to some very special members of our community. Join us in spreading kindness and care!

### **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:

**4/1/2025: Birds and the Bees**

**4/8/2025: ABC's of Early Literacy**

**4/15/2025: Mathematics for Infants and Toddlers**

**4/22/2025: Screen Time for Young Children**

**4/29/2025: Positive Discipline**

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

**Registration:** [https://msu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_tsaVF3uvTp2wINV5dlR2vw](https://msu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_tsaVF3uvTp2wINV5dlR2vw)

## 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, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
- **Class Times:** 11:30am-1:00pm ET
- **Registration:** [https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_dd7Nnn1h8Y1TcNg](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](mailto:aldric82@msu.edu)

### **WATCH:**

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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X4BURcNCH-o>

<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.***

