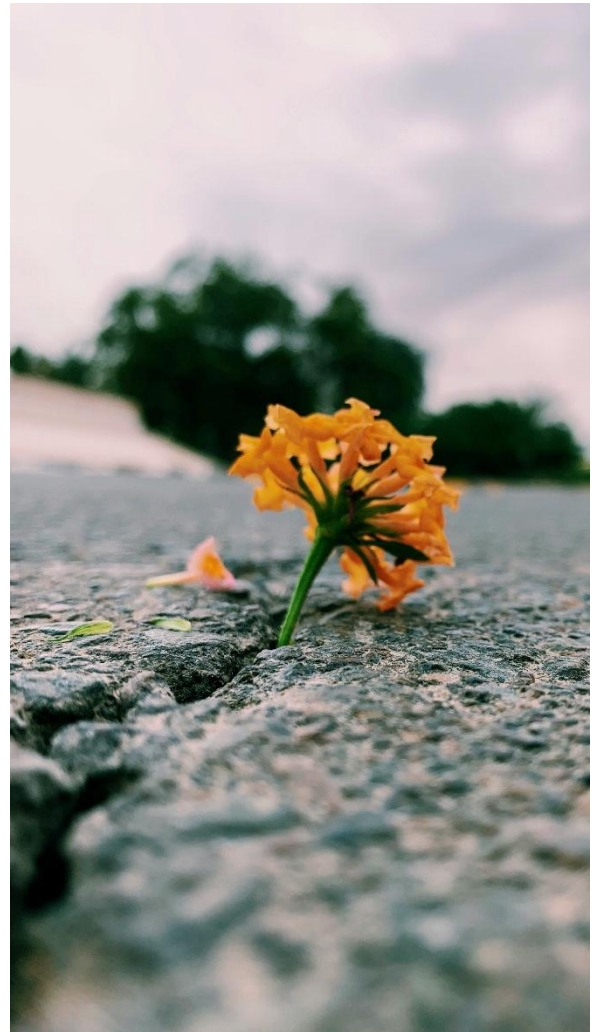


May 07, 2025

Dear CONNECT Family,

Family Spiritual Practice

Faith Talk:



What I am reading/listening:

[Motherhood, Moms, and Mother-figures Quiz](#) - take a short quiz to test your knowledge about motherhood and some of the women who shaped The United Methodist Church.

Mindful Moments Checklist

[The Best Advice I Ever Heard for How to be Happy - NYT Special Magazine Issue](#)

What I am watching:

[Mothers Day \(Kid Interviews\)](#)

[I Will Love You Forever](#)

Quote, I've Been Thinking About...

"It is not what you do for your children, but what you have taught them to do for themselves that will make them successful human beings."

- Ann Landers

WHAT WE ARE WONDERING ABOUT

Practice Theme: The Cup of Freedom

Easter is a time of "alleluias!" When death seems to have had the last word and rising up feels locked down, we call on the power of love and life. We take up Jesus' cup of freedom, we call on the name of the One Who Is Truly Sovereign, and we claim the freedom to move forward, to sing, to follow, to rise again, to love, heal, and be opened. In the end, we are filled with the freedom of the Spirit of God.

Last Sunday:

Last Sunday, we will gathered for worship in the Sanctuary as we celebrated Communion together. Our theme, "**Freedom to Follow**," was rooted in the Scripture: Acts 9:1-6, 7-20 | Psalm 30 | John 21:1-19 Jesus used common examples like "tend my sheep," "feed my lambs," and "cast your nets on the other side" to call the disciples to follow in his footsteps—inviting all to a life of freedom. And like Saul whose eyes were opened to the freedom to follow the ways of Jesus, this Sunday's scriptures invited us to leave aside our hesitations and claim our discipleship.



This Sunday:

This Sunday, our theme will be **Freedom to Rise Again** based on the Scripture of: Acts 9:26-43 | Psalm 23 | John 10:22-30

All the scriptures this Sunday point to a revival, a restoration, and the promise of an overflowing cup of life. The dramatic image of Tabitha rising from her death bed urges us to hear the Voice of Freedom that

says, “come on, you can do it, get up!” No matter how down and out we might feel, God reaches out a hand to help us up. And we say, “Yes!”

WONDER ROOM - CHILDREN'S LIBRARY & SPIRITUAL PRACTICE ROOM

The Wonder Room is always open as a quiet and welcoming place for children to spend time—reading, reflecting, or experimenting with different ways to pray and practice their faith. Whether it's curling up with a story, lighting a candle, or creating something at one of the stations, our hope is that this space becomes a sanctuary for wonder, curiosity, and spiritual growth.

We've also set aside a small corner with **resources for parents**—books and materials to support you as you nurture faith at home, create meaningful rhythms, and walk alongside your children on their spiritual journey.



Coming Up

May 11

CONNECT - 9 AM

Freedom to Rise Again

May 18

CONNECT - 9 AM

Freedom to Love

May 25 **CONNECT - 10 AM (One Service)**

Freedom to Heal

June 01 **NO CONNECT - 10 AM**

Freedom to Open - Communion Sunday

June 08 **CONNECT - 10 AM**

Freedom to Be Filled

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MESSY CHURCH

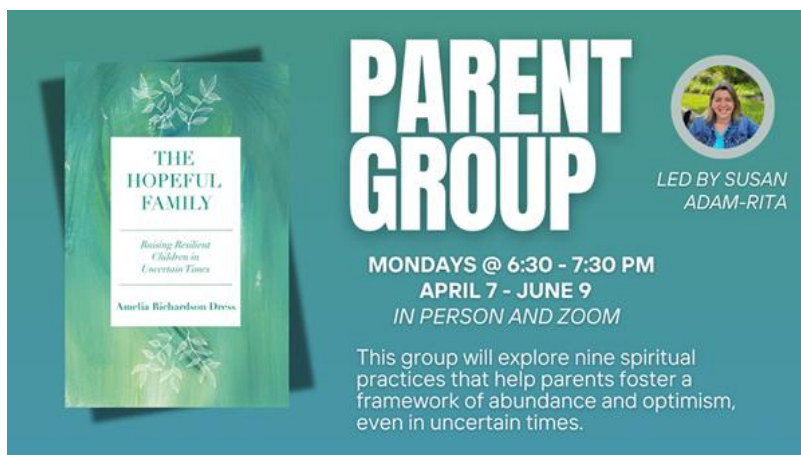


May 11, 2025 - THIS SUNDAY!

A promotional banner for a Messy Church event. On the left is a photograph of four diverse children smiling and standing outdoors. A red heart icon is overlaid on the bottom left of the photo. The right side of the banner has a solid color background with horizontal stripes. It features the Messy Church logo at the top, followed by the text "PUT ON LOVE" in large, white, block letters. Below that, the date and time "May 11, 2025 4:00 - 6:00 pm" are displayed. At the bottom, a quote reads: "Where people of all ages come together to share in music, storytelling, creative crafts, and a delicious dinner."

PARENT/CAREGIVER GROUP

You are invited to joy us-anytime!



Wonderful online classes

Michigan State University Extension

Child and Family Development Offerings

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 ET as follows:**

Class dates:

6/3/2025: How Children Develop

6/10/2025: Essential Skills for Learning and Life

6/17/2025: Introduction to Positive and Adverse Childhood Experiences

6/24/2025: Unlock the Conversation: Safety from Guns for Parents

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

- For more information contact Courtney Aldrich at aldric82@msu.edu

The Parent Talk System

Do you feel like the children in your care aren't listening to you? Do you find yourself constantly repeating yourself trying to gain compliance? This 6-week series is for parents and caregivers of children of all ages and is designed to improve communication and provide practical verbal strategies for raising confident, caring, responsible children. Topics include eliminating unwanted behavior, setting limits, teaching about consequences, giving effective feedback, promoting independence, and developing character. Certificates of attendance are available. **This class is eligible for MIRegistry Credit!**

- **Class dates:** Wednesdays, May 14, 21, 28, June 4, 11, 18
- **Class times:** 11:30am-1:00pm ET

- **Registration:** https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9ymsFvepoXP3cFw
- 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=3q9LQMpb8hE>

<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.

