



The Vital Spark

January 13, 2015

A message from our Senior Pastor, Jacob Thorne



What does it look like to build Christ-centered relationships with others? How do we become even more deeply embedded in our community? What are the ways in which we embody the gospel and teachings of Jesus to those that visit our church?

This past week two of our members at Community, Tracey Hammack and Lisa Belue, volunteered to provide drinks, pizza, and dessert to four of the basketball teams that practice on Thursday evenings. Each week, we have literally hundreds of families who use our facilities for sports practices. People from the community are coming to our church. And yet, until recently, we have not had a focused and intentional effort on developing relationships with these individuals.

So one way to grow new relationships is to simply, as Jesus did with his followers, share a meal with others. When asked why they were providing such wonderful food, Tracey shared with several parents how we, as a church, are thankful for the opportunity to share our building with the community and hope to begin new relationships with others. The kids, of course, thought this was a great idea and started referring to Tracey as, "The nice church lady."

We also need to continue reaching out to our neighbors. For several months now, as the church board is aware, we have had conversations with The Heritage School—currently located next door and housed in the Journey church—about leasing some of our space in DeWitt Hall for the upcoming school year. Nothing has been finalized and there are still a number of details to work out. But as we have engaged in conversation with Jason—the headmaster of the school—I realized what an opportunity we have to develop relationships with our neighbors that are literally just a few footsteps away. Jason and I have reflected on how together, our church and The Heritage School, share many of the same missions and visions—creating disciples of Christ and sharing in the well-being of our community. This new relationship was started with a simple phone call. Who knows where it will lead, but I do know that we cannot exist—especially in this day and age—without support and interaction with others.

There are many other ways we can connect with our neighbors. All it takes is a conversation and a willingness to move beyond the circle of our own lives. This year, in 2015, I am going to be more intentional about creating new relationships. I hope you will join me in this challenge.

Blessings,
Jacob

Attendance:	Jan. 4	Jan. 11
Sunday School	44	52
Worship		
8:30	92	93
10:45	<u>62</u>	<u>97</u>
	164	190

Publication Deadlines:	Publication Date
Article Deadline	
January 22	January 27
February 5	February 10

Worship Schedule

- 8:30 a.m. Traditional Service
- 9:45 a.m. Faith Learning
- 10:45 a.m. Contemporary Service

Sunday, January 18
Lessons for the New Year: Heal
1 Corinthians 13: 2,3,8
 Rev. Jacob Thorne

Sunday, January 25
Know God. Know you.
Matthew 16: 13-15
 Rev. Jacob Thorne

Sunday, February 1
Come Together. Right Now. Over Me.
Galatians 3: 26-29
 Rev. Jacob Thorne

Prayer List

Kathy Bumeter; Bill Tichacek; Joann Brown, mother of Steve Brown; Ruth Morrison; Betty Bremer; Lois Estes; Jerome Dupuis, father of Rich Dupuis; Brandon Hamm, friend of Sandy Schleusner; triplets born to Nate and Jen Jacobsmeyer, grandbabies of Beckie and Randy Jacobsmeyer; Chris and Hugh Berry, parents of Christine Meier; Brenda Probst, cousin of Liz Dupuis; Taylor Family, friend of Kay Gauble; Mike Radloff, son-in-law of Whitney's and brother-in-law of Susan McGehee; Frankie, great-grandson of Ruby Garrison; Cindy Winfrey, friend of Ric and Susan Degitz; Juanita Dietle, Jana Revell's mother; Tim Becker and family, friend of Sandy Schleusner.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the Linda and Jerry Medlock and their family upon the passing of Bill Gill on January 1, 2015.

Remember those of our congregation who cannot worship with us on a regular basis: Lucille Pressnell, Tom Van Horn, Janet Head, Ruby Garrison, Barbara Wood.

Calligraphy Classes Coming!

Are you interested in calligraphy or would just like to try something new? CCC member Cheryl Tefft, who is a professional calligrapher and also creates some of the signs for our Stable Sale, will be teaching two calligraphy classes right here at church. All are welcome, CCC member or not, with no experience necessary; invite an artistic friend! For mature teens and well-behaved adults.

Introduction to Calligraphy

The use of calligraphy extends from addressing envelopes all the way into the realm of museum-quality fine art. This one-time class provides an overview, history, and display/demonstration of different aspects of calligraphy, along with the opportunity for completing a take-home project. Good for a better understanding of just how wide-ranging the world of calligraphy is, and also for deciding if you want to learn to do it yourself. Thursday, January 29, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Registration by January 27 appreciated; limit 25 attendees. Fee of \$10/ person to cover expenses is requested; those who lack funds are still welcome.

Beginning Calligraphy I

Want to learn to create beautiful artistic lettering? Now is your chance. Good handwriting is NOT a prerequisite! Learn to write in uncial (Celtic), one of the easiest to learn among the classic lettering styles. You will also examine a wide variety of examples of lettering, both historical and contemporary, and there will be some lovely surprises along the way! No experience needed. 10 class sessions, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursdays, February 5 through April 23 (no class on March 19 or April 16). Registration by February 4 appreciated; limit 12 students. \$125 fee includes all specialized supplies; supply list provided for basics (pencil, ruler, etc.).

All classes will be held in the choir room at the church (room 206-208, in Upper Packwood). For more information or to register for either class, contact Cheryl at calligraphics@yahoo.com or 636-441-7225.

CCC Youth Group News

At our next meeting we would like to get an idea of how many youth are interested in attending General Assembly July 18-24 in Columbus, OH. Once we determine if we have enough interest we can provide costs, deposit info, etc. If you can't attend the meeting on January 25th please email Kara Chapman at karachap@gmail.com and confirm whether or not you are interested in this summer trip.

We will be selling soda at the Annual Chili Supper on Sunday Feb 8. We are asking each Youth to bring two 12 packs of soda to donate. Also please let us know on the 25th if you will be able to work at the Chili Supper selling soda.

Here are a few upcoming dates:

- 1/18 - No meeting (MLK holiday weekend)
- 1/25 Youth Group 4-6
- 2/1 - Possible Superbowl party, if enough interest
- 2/8 - Chili Supper 5-8
- 2/15 - Youth Group 4-6

Save the dates:

- Youth Sunday Rehearsal
- Saturday, March 7, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Youth Sunday is March 8th

LIBRARY OFFERINGS FOR COLD DAYS IN JANUARY



Check out a book from the Church Library for the upcoming COLD DAYS

Listed below are some of favorite authors of children and adults at Community

Alexander, Eben M.D., *Proof of Heaven: A Neurosurgeon's Journey into the Afterlife*

Binchy, Maeve *Heart and Soul*

Cameron, Barbara, *Her Restless Heart*

Graham, Billy, *Hope for the Troubled Heart*

Henderson, Dee, *Undetected*

Hunter, Denise, *The Accidental Bride*

MacArthur, John *Slave: The Hidden Truth About Your Identity in Christ*

Macomber, Debbie, *The Unexpected Husband*

Peterson, Tracie *A Moment in Time*

Pettrey, Dani, *Shattered*

Singer, Randy, *Irreparable Harm*

Tickle, Phyllis, *The Great Emergence: How Christianity Is Changing and Why*

Wingate, Lisa, *The Story Keeper*

CHILDREN/TWEENS: *Third Grade Angels; The Indian in the Cupboard; The Very Lonely Firefly and a Nancy Drew book, Mystery at Lilac Inn; Hardy Boys book, The House on the Cliff; Peter; tRidley Pearson's Peter the Sword of Mercy*

Ministry Fair In Narthex!!

Be sure and stroll by the table displays in the Narthex on Sunday, January 25th, to learn about and to volunteer for one or more of the ministries here at CCC. Even if you are already serving in a variety of ways you may see something new that will benefit from your involvement and be fulfilling for you. To help identify areas in which you might consider serving, and to provide our leaders with a resource of the talents within our church family, there is a profile sheet we are asking all adults and youth to complete. The profile sheets are available on Sunday mornings and extra copies are on one of the counters in the Narthex. (Check the website as well!) Completed profiles should be returned to the basket marked "Profiles", also in the Narthex. Everyone who returns a completed profile by January 25th will receive a treat! Thank you!

Special Projects in 2014!

2014 was a year full of changes... from business manager, to lightening strike(s) which knocked out our computers and fire alarm system. Along with making the repairs to these things, we had dead trees cut down, some new trees and bushes put in the front yard. New windows put in the front doors and sanctuary doors, new TV's in the Narthex, some new furniture for the youth, replaced damaged window shades in DeWitt Hall, a new hand rail going down to DeWitt, thermostats that can now be set by designated individuals by way of the cell phones, a new coffee bar in the library (with cabinets), a new smaller stove in the WFLC kitchen.....and major repairs made in the parking lot and driveways.

How did we pay for all these repairs and new things? The answer is mostly through funds made available to us from Disciples Women via the Stable Sales, a sizeable bequest (to repair the parking lot), memorial funds, some designated funds and insurance reimbursements.

Thanks to the many volunteers who do so much on keeping up our property, buildings, equipment and systems...on an ongoing basis!!!

Leon Whitney ... Chair
Facilities and Finance

Children's Ministry News

Children's Ministry has lots of exciting things going on! Save the date for July 13-17 for our G-Force themed Vacation Bible School! The VBS directors, Paulette Thorne, Lori Hoover, and Amy Hoover are already preparing and planning for a fun week of exploring how God moves through people. Be on the look out for skateboards, roller blades, running shoes, and lots of movement going on in the church as we get closer to the date! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact one of the directors. More information on registration to come soon!

Children's Ministry is hosting a Kid's Night Out on February 13 from 7-10 PM. This is a night full of fun for the kids and a night off for the parents! This is an event we are hosting at no-cost for anyone who attends. This is a new event for Children's Ministry, and we are very excited to host this event for all members and friends. Invite your neighbors, classmates, and friends! Register in the Narthex or find the registration form on our website!

Worship Leader Schedule

	January 18	January 25	February 1
Worship Leader	Leon Whitney	Mike Grogan	Cindy Herman
Narthex Greeter	8:30 Kristina and John Houghton 10:45 Tracey Hammack	8:30 Jess & Linda Newton 10:45 Bill & Sharon Turnbough	8:30 Liz & Rich Dupuis 10:45 Deb Shabel & Brenda Richardson
Children's Moment	8:30 Molly Duncan 10:45 Molly Duncan	8:30 Lorna Lawrence 10:45 Lorna Lawrence	8:30 Rev. Thorne 10:45 Rev. Thorne
Scripture Reader—10:45			
Elder	8:30 Earl Primeau 10:45 Rob Brown	8:30 Jess Newton 10:45 Brenda Richardson	8:30 Scott Douglass 10:45 Laura McDurmont
Deacons 8:30	Diane Hall Dick Hall Lea Ann Ravens Mitzie Bryant Pennie Anderson Joan Tichacek	Diane Hall Dick Hall Lea Ann Ravens Mitzie Bryant Pennie Anderson Joan Tichacek	Kristina Houghton John Houghton Laurie Clifton Wanda Morgenthaler Alec Belue Ella Miget
Deacons 10:45	Jim Burchfield Cindy Burchfield Kelly Northcott Stephanie Boone Justin Evans Emma McDurmont Evan McDurmont	Jim Burchfield Cindy Burchfield Kelly Northcott Stephanie Boone Justin Evans Emma McDurmont Evan McDurmont	Beth Bean Wendy Finch Beckie Jacobsmeyer Alicia Thomason Andrew Boyce

Book Discussion Group

Join us on January 19, 2015 to discuss "The Healing" by Jonathan Odell. We will meet at the home of Beth Bean, 813 Carman Woods Drive, Manchester from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. Please contact Brenda Richardson at 636-386-5279 with questions.



Stable Ministry Corner

As you may remember, in December our church was involved with a Christmas Party for the children of Ferguson. We made 45 presents for the children from the Stable.

Fleece Blanket Making



All women and children are invited to participate in the Project Linus service project that is happening this coming Saturday in the WFLC from 9:00 a.m. until noon. Bring fleece fabric, sharp scissors or a cutting wheel if you have one, and help us tie blankets together - no sewing is necessary. Questions? Call Liz Dupuis or Linda Newton.

It's Almost CHILI Time!

Even though we don't have weather that makes us "chili" right now, the Elder's want you to begin thinking "chili!" Our annual Chili Cook-Off and Pie Auction will be held on February 8th at 6 p.m. We need 8 people who would like to enter their chili in the competition (2 gallons needed) and pie bakers to donate pies for the auction. If you would be willing to do either, please sign up on the back of your attendance tab. Ticket sales will begin on January 18th. Mark your calendars now so you don't miss this exciting event.



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The Church office will be closed on Monday, January 19th in observance of Martin Luther King day. In the event of an emergency, please contact Rev. Thorne by cell phone or e-mail.

CCC Staff:

Rev. Jacob Thorne, Senior Pastor
Rev. Darla Goodrich, Associate Pastor
Sherri Hartung, Office Manager

The Vital Spark is a bi-monthly publication of Community Christian Church. Our purpose is to encourage fellowship among CCC members and visitors and to announce upcoming events and activities.

All articles are edited for continuity, content and space as needed. Please see submission deadlines on page one. Thank you.