

THE VITAL SPARK



Publication of Community Christian Church

June 2017

A Message from our Senior Pastor

Dear CCC Family,

Exactly one week from this Saturday, my family and I will be breathing the fresh Colorado air. I am looking forward to the mountains—a time to refresh and renew. It will be a bit strange to not join you in worship; I haven't missed a Sunday since the middle of September. Yet, I know you will be in good hands with good preachers.

On July 2nd, Steve Staicoff will be preaching. Steve is both a preacher and a troubadour. His message will engage and inspire. The following Sunday, July 9th, I will also be absent—not for vacation, but for attending the General Assembly held in Indianapolis. On this Sunday, Don Miller will bring the message. Don, as most of you know, is a former staff member of CCC. And while he is no longer on staff Don continues to be a valued member of our community—participating as an elder, a volunteer with our youth, and a member of the worship committee.

When I return, there will be several big occasions taking place in the life of our church—VBS will be in full swing and Amy's final Sunday will be July 23rd (a reception following worship will be held in her honor). We will also spend the months of July and August recruiting leaders for our small groups that will launch in September. Just a reminder, the small groups will meet for six guided sessions between September and the start of December to help us clarify the mission and vision of CCC. And in addition to all of this, by the end of August the revised by-laws and constitution reflecting our hopeful change in governance structure will be shared, along with three separate listening sessions to help us prepare for a congregational vote.

I have been encouraged by our summer worship services. I love when we come together as one—there is such a sense of connectedness and energy, it is almost palpable.

As always, feel free to contact me with any questions/comments/concerns mentioned above, or anything else in the life of the church. I am grateful to serve as your pastor.

Blessings,

Jacob

Disciples Women Gather...



Ladies from Disciples women gathered to share a meal together last Thursday night. It was a fun evening of good food and fellowship.

CCC Book Group...

The book group will meet at 1:30 p.m. on July 17th in the CCC library. Discussion will be on "*The Diary of Anne Frank*". Please contact Brenda Richardson at 636-851-7155 if you would like more information.

Chancel Area ...

The chancel area of our sanctuary can reflect our heritage. Does your family have an item of significance for your faith (Bible, book, picture, etc. that you would consider sharing? If so contact the church office to make arrangements for how to share your item(s).

Mission First Team Update ...

The Mission First Team met recently to talk about current and upcoming mission opportunities. For the summer we are partnering with Hanna Woods Elementary school to help provide some healthy foods for 10 families that have been identified as being in great need of assistance. This is a church wide opportunity to help so please contact the office if you have questions regarding how to donate.

June 24 and 25 our church is partnering with Webster Groves, Memorial Boulevard, and Union Avenue Christian churches to sponsor a booth at Pridefest in downtown St. Louis. Please contact the office if you would like to sign up for a time to work.

Several church members continue to visit with the girls in the Knobel dorm at Epworth on a regular basis. During their last visit the girls decorated their own ball caps and had a snack extravaganza provided by Lisa Belue!

The Mission First team also made a donation to the Red Cross to help with local flood relief.

For upcoming mission we have set a date of October 22 for the next all church Mission Day and we are already discussing outreach projects for that day. If you know of a group or individual that could benefit from our help, we welcome your ideas!

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, July 11th, at 6:30 p.m.-if you have ideas or a passion for mission we would love to have you join us!



Thank you and condolences...

CCC Family

Thank you to those who showed support of my Guatemala mission trip that I took in March. IT is with excitement that I share with you that together we raised \$950! That almost covered the cost of 4 stoves! This mission trip was a record setting year. Some of the accomplishments include:

- 150 homes with plancha stove/water filters
- 1 community school with an institutional stove and 10 water filters
- 1,139 people impacted with healthier living
- 1,800 trees saved each year for the life of the stove
- 156 hours saved each year for the life of the stove due to the efficiency of the stove

The medical team also completed 1,744 medical procedures during the trip.

It was a truly rewarding trip in so many ways and I look forward to making the trip again next year.

If anyone is interested in joining me, please let me know and I will get you the necessary information.

Thanks again,
Scott Welker

Thank you so much for the generous scholarship! I am pleased to be a part of such a great church who is so supportive. The money will really come in handy for my college expenses. Thanks again!
Allie Seymour

Thank you for the generous graduation money. I appreciate your continuous support.
Sincerely,
Jordan McGehee

Disciple's Women's Fellowship

Thank you for the cookies and snacks that you sent this past semester. They were great to have while studying for exams!

Grace Hartman

Thank you for the care-package of snacks you sent me. My roommates and I made sure they did not last long.

Sam Hartman

Yard Work Volunteers

Thank you Ted Herman, Bill Turnbough, Marlan Graham, Tracey Hammack, Nick Rega, Les Swaney, Jacob Thorne and Beth Bean for enduring the heat this past Tuesday evening in order to spread dirt and mulch and trim bushes. The church grounds look much better after your hard work.

With sadness

Longtime CCC member and friend, Jackie Holt, passed away on June 2nd. Jackie had been with her son Gary and his family in Tennessee in recent weeks for cancer treatment. Jackie left this earthly world in a peaceful state according to her daughter-in-law, Gail. Her funeral service was held here at CCC on June 10th.

Blood Drive donors

Thank you to all who turned out for our church blood drive. With your help, the Red Cross was able to collect 17 pints of blood. Our next blood drive will be September 10th.

VBS is almost here ...

“Hero Central” VBS Update

July 17-21

9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.



Come join other 3 year olds-5th graders for a week of exploring a few Biblical characters who help us develop our sense of having heart, exhibiting courage, seeking wisdom, spreading hope, and utilizing our power for good.

We have 32 campers registered so far. We have spots for a few more! Click below to register. Send your \$20 registration fee to church.

Looking forward to a wonderful week!

<http://disciplesforchrist.org/vbs-registration-2017/>

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Visit us on the web at
www.disciplesforchrist.org

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Community Christian Church
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Ladies lunch dates ...

All women are invited to attend one or both of the following lunch events:

The first is on Wednesday, June 28th at The Sisters Tea House in Fenton. This event is being organized by Deb Gray. Please contact her at debgray3@gmail.com by this Sunday if you would like to attend. Carpool will leave CCC at 10:45 a.m. Payment must be by cash or check, no credit cards.

The second opportunity is a lunch to be held at Limelight Events in St. Charles. This is the event hosting space operated by Julie Swaney of CCC. A catered meal will be served. A carpool will leave CCC at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 13th and lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. The cost will be \$13 payable in cash at the time of the event. Please sign up in the CCC Narthex if you would like to attend.

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

The next Vital Spark deadline is July 18, 2017.