

May
2019

The Vital Spark

NEWSLETTER OF COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR MINISTER

Dear Community,

In today's article I want to draw your attention to three upcoming events in the life of our church: the capital campaign; the community garden; and Vacation Bible School. So...let's begin.

By now, a brochure should have arrived in your mailbox outlining the goals for our "Clearly Seeing 20/20" capital campaign. It is very exciting to think that by the end of this calendar year we can achieve our realistic goal of being completely debt free. With an absence of debt we will not only save money on interest, but also have more financial flexibility for continued ministry initiatives and property maintenance. Every dollar received is significant. Please prayerfully consider your financial contribution over the coming weeks.

The community garden is in formation. Now that we have the proper approval and permits from the city of Manchester we are fine tuning our planning and design. Next Friday, we will meet with St. Louis native and gardening expert Matt Lebon—owner of Custom Foodscaping—to ensure all of the details are in place (it turns out that designing an urban garden is quite complex) and that our long range plans are both realistic and achievable. In initial conversations, Matt affirmed that we are on the right path and was impressed with our biblical approach to community gardening—take what you need, share what you can. We feel confident that by this fall we will be able to host a fall harvest party with the fruits of our labor.

Planning has begun for Vacation Bible School. This is always a fun time to grow in Christian community with our children, youth and adults. If you have not registered, please consider doing so soon. For me, I always enjoy listening to my children sing the songs with the accompanying cd's both long before and long after the actual VBS.

These three items are just a brief snapshot of our busy life here at Community. I am very grateful for the success of the recent Stable Sale, the huge number of hours volunteered, and the relationships that are formed, renewed, and celebrated. We also recently hosted the Bethany Fellows (forty young ministers from across the nation) to share the steps we took in becoming an Open and Affirming Congregation, watched an excellent performance by the God's Kids Choir, recognized the graduation of our seniors, and are working (as I write) to complete the installation of the new screen in the sanctuary.

It is a good time to be in Community.

Blessings,

Jacob

Open and Affirming Update

Just a note to let you know that the Open and Affirming Group of Community Christian Church is still alive and well, and is hard at work envisioning the next phase of our Open and Affirming status. In other words, now that we have voted to become an Open and Affirming congregation, "how do we now live into that mission". If you would like to be a part of this exciting ministry team, please reach out to Loyalty Miller and/or join us for our next meeting which is scheduled for Monday, June 3 at 6:30 PM.

Thank You

CCC,

Thank you so much for the gift card! It's always fun getting mail at school especially when it's a surprise.

Thanks!

Grace Hartman

Dear Women's Fellowship,

I wanted to thank you for the Walmart gift card! Thanks to you I won't starve here at school!

Best,

Sam Hartman

Save the Date

- Pancakes for Pentecost breakfast and worship in WFLC on June 9th
- Summer blood drive on June 23rd

Mission Team News

#CourageouslyServing

The Mission First Team is happy to continue our partnership with Hanna Woods over the summer to provide bags of food once a week, every other month. CCC will be responsible for June and August and we appreciate the support of all of the community in providing groceries for these bags. The relationship between CCC and the Columbia Elementary School remains strong as volunteers from CCC served as a conduit between Pond Elementary School to share school supplies with the Columbia classrooms. Lifetouch Studios donated \$450 from the church directory photo shoot profits to outreach at CCC and the Mission First Team voted to direct those funds to the Community Garden project citing the potential impact on local community outreach that will come from that initiative. The Mission First Team continues to thank all of the CCC members who are engaged in service and outreach in so many ways, and welcomes any members that may want to join the team to assist in planning for future outreach opportunities. CCC members are truly living their mission to serve courageously!

VBS 2019



When: June 24—27

Time: 9-12 Monday—Wednesday, 9-2 Thursday

Register at disciplesforchrist.org

DON'T WAIT!!

**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION ENDS
THIS SUNDAY!!!**

Children's Ministry



Cast of "Arkeology"

With special thanks to the directors and volunteers that helped in a variety of ways throughout these past few months.

Summer Break for Sunday School

Starting on May 26, there will be no Children's Sunday School. There will be plenty of coloring and Bible story packets in the bookcase at the back of the sanctuary for children to use during worship this summer.

CCC
623 Meramec Station Road
Manchester, MO 63021

Rev. Jacob Thorne, Senior Minister
Beth Bean, Office Manager
636.394.2772
office@disciplesforchrist.org
www.disciplesforchrist.org