

August  
2019

# The Vital Spark

NEWSLETTER OF COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

## MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR MINISTER

Dear Community Family,

As we move into fall, I want to give an update on the preaching schedule.

For the next two weeks, we have a short sermon series: Sacred Selfies and Sacred Rest. How we perceive our own identity and how we treat, as Paul says, our body as a temple, greatly influences our understanding of God and our relationships with one another. If the sermon motivates you to take a selfie during worship, feel free!

Then, beginning Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, we will start following the narrative lectionary. This style of lectionary, used increasingly by many churches, rotates through a four year cycle of biblical readings. In each of four years, the Narrative Lectionary tells the biblical story from start to finish—starting in Genesis each September, working through the Old Testament until Christmas, and then moving to one of the Gospels and the Book of Acts, in spring.

It's been a few years since we have followed a lectionary schedule in worship, but I look forward to finding our stories in the narrative of God's story and not being able to skip some of the more challenging texts of the Bible.

As always, I look forward to seeing you on Sunday mornings. Worshipping with one another is one of the constant highlights of my week.

Many blessings to each of you,

Jacob

## Thank You...

I want to thank our CCC church family for the many cards, calls, and especially prayers that have bolstered John's and my spirits during my ongoing recovery from a recent fall. They have been greatly appreciated.

Kristina Houghton

Thanks for all the cards, calls, and prayers from our Stable/CCC friends. We have left Bronchitis and Pneumonia behind us (we hope) and now understand that recovery demands afternoon naps! We were happy to venture back to the Stable on Thursday the 15th.

Jean Ann and Marlan Graham

Thank you to all CCC members and friends who took time to help me and my family celebrate my birthday. Reaching 80 is nice but having you all as friends means so much more to me. Thank you so much!

Nick Rega

Dental hygiene kits in blue and pink plastic bags were given to the Stable Ministry and they in turn donated them to Columbia Elementary School. These kits were delivered to Columbia Elementary and one kit went to each of the 250 students.

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for participating in our Back-to-School fair by donating items for backpacks of children in need. With your help we were able to distribute 102 backpacks on the day of the event and an additional 48 in the days following. The children truly enjoyed selecting their I.D.tags and receiving their reusable water bottles.

Brenda Booth, Executive Director, Isaiah 58 Ministries

## Cane Ridge Re-Vital

*Transforming Congregations of Mid-America*

All are welcome to attend this event at First Christian Church in Troy, MO on Sept 21 from 10:30 a.m. —2 p.m. A sign up sheet will be in the Narthex on September 1. The gathering will help **re-connect us** with one another and **equip us** for Re-Vitalized ministry.

## Fall Blood Drive

Many of you know first hand how critical it is that there be blood products available when needed. Our CCC ongoing service project having the American Red Cross here to collect blood donations is a perfect way to participate and help someone in need. Please support our blood drive ministry and donate a pint at our blood drive happening September 22 from 0800 until 1200. Questions? Contact Liz Dupuis or the church office.

## Senior Citizen's Lunches

Lunch programs will resume on September 5th in the CCC Narthex at 11:30 a.m. Our September program will highlight a current exhibit at the Missouri History Museum called "Pulitzer Prize Photographs".

Mark your calendar now for future lunch dates: November 7, December 5, February 6, March 5, April 2 and June 4.

Food donations for each lunch are appreciated. Please contact the church office if you'd like to help in some way or if you'd like more information about the meetings.

## Book Discussion Group

The CCC Book Discussion Group will be meeting on September 16th at 1:30 p.m. in the CCC Library for conversation about the book *Orhan's Inheritance* by Aline Ohanesian. Please contact Brenda Richardson for a copy of the book or for additional information about the group.

# Children's Vigil and Sabbath Observances

This Fall, CCC will join thousands of other congregations across the nation and world in celebrating “Light a Candle with Children Vigil” (each Sunday between September 15-October 13) and the “Children’s Sabbath” (October 20/Mission Sunday). These events are sponsored by the Children’s Defense Fund in Washington D.C. and supported by over 200 religious organizations and denominations, including the Disciples of Christ.

The Vigil/Sabbath will focus on children/youth, the difficulties they face in our world today, their gifts, their importance to us and God, and to recognize our responsibility to nurture and protect children/youth.

At CCC, we will join in this united voice for children by celebrating the Vigil/Sabbath and by our youth/children participating during worship services. We hope you enjoy these events and will support our children and youth. For more information see Susan McGehee or Beth Bean.

**Reminder—Children’s Sunday School will resume on September 1**

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