



# The Vital Spark

A NEWSLETTER OF COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH ~ JUNE, 2020

## MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR MINISTER, REV. JACOB THORNE

Dear Church,

Fifteen years ago I was ordained into the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

The ordination took place in the church where I grew up, First Christian Church in St. Joseph, MO. I will be forever indebted to the fine people of FCC who nurtured my call to ministry, both as a child and, later, as a young adult.

The text I chose to have read at the ordination came from the prophet Micah. Micah, a prophet from the Old Testament, used words to help remake and renew the world. Words for prophets are inspired by God and meant to reenergize and rebuild—especially in times of disaster and mistrust. In the sixth chapter of Micah, the prophet says, “With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”

It’s a simple message, really. Do what is fair and just to your neighbor, be compassionate and loyal in your love, and don’t take yourself too seriously—take God seriously.

Sometimes, in these present days of unrest, I need to remind myself of these plain, yet profound, truths of old. I pray that I can continue to live into this vision of what God requests and that we, as a community of faith, can help participate in, remake, and renew the world.

I am grateful to each of you for this journey of ministry—the journey of seeking to follow, as fellow believers, in the Word of Christ.

Blessings to all,

Jacob

# MISSION TEAM UPDATES

Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, your #courageouslyserving CCC Mission Team has been focused on food insecurity during the COVID crisis. Agencies and organizations that seek to alleviate hunger in our greater St. Louis community have been stressed beyond capacity by the pressures that joblessness and school closings during the current crisis have placed on the need of the populations that they serve.

Additionally we feel that the mission statement of our congregation calls us to acknowledge the added pressure that has been placed on under-represented communities during this time and we have been seeking opportunities to assist our community partners who are working hard to address those needs.

We were proud to have members of our congregation taking part in the recent Isaiah 58 Ministries food drive, and appreciate greatly your continued support of families in the Hanna Woods community with donations for that weekly delivery and your donations for the Circle of Concern food pantry.

We are working to allocate generous contributions from our congregation to focus on additional support for Isaiah 58 Ministries, Urban Reach STL and Memorial Boulevard DOC Food Pantry as well as the Hanna Woods families.

If you would like to take part in our continued efforts to address food insecurity but find that social distancing keeps you from being able to drop off donations directly please don't hesitate to let Beth Bean know if we can come by and pick up your donations, or if you would rather have a team member shop for you we welcome your direct donation to CCC with a note to utilize the funds for food insecurity initiatives.

Thank you for your continued generosity and giving spirit.

We hope to be able to plan a Mission Saturday for October 24th but will continue to evaluate the public health situation as we operationalize that plan!

## ONLINE WORSHIP

Weekly worship service videos can be viewed by going to our website, Facebook page or YouTube channel. The video's stream every Sunday morning at 10 a.m.

We are grateful for the continued offering donations received by mail and by online giving over the past couple of months.



## MEAL ASSISTANCE

We are continuing support of Vickie Minden as she continues with her medical treatments. Please use the link below if you'd like to participate in providing a meal for Vickie and her daughter Elizabeth in the coming weeks.

Meal Train sign up link:

<https://mealtrain.com/w1kw4e>



## THANK YOU NOTES

To the Women and Men of CCC,

Thank you for the scholarship money. As I continue my academic pursuit at Truman it will be very useful for books and other expenses. I appreciate the support the church community has given me over the years.

Thank you,

Allyson Monroe



Dear Men and Women's Groups of CCC,

I would like to thank you for the scholarships I was given. They have already helped fund my first two classes for college!

Thank you again,

Jenna Evans

Thank you my dear friends at CCC for your cards and prayers after the passing of my sweet granddaughter Jamie. We were very close and I miss her so much.

Love,

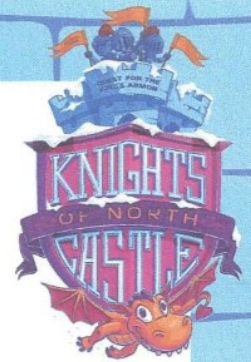
Leta Edmonds

## A MESSAGE FROM THE HALL'S

It has been a blessing to be a part of CCC for the past 7 years. Before our move to Arizona a parting gift was made to CCC in honor of each of you in the congregation and to thank you for including and supporting us in joint ministry.

God Bless,

Dick and Diane Hall



## VIRTUAL VBS 2020

JULY 13 TO JULY 17

Daily Zoom Meeting at 11 a.m.

We can't wait for children/grandchildren/friends to join us for a **virtual** Vacation Bible School (VBS) this summer. A link will be sent every day which will allow the "Knights" (children) to watch pre-recorded videos of the daily bible story, science experiments, songs, games and more. There will be a Zoom fellowship time each morning at 11 a.m. for everyone to come together and recap the morning of fun.

We'd love to have you fill out a registration form (see link below) and return it to CCC ([office@disciplesforchrist.org](mailto:office@disciplesforchrist.org)). This will allow us to pre-fill a take home bag with craft supplies, a music cd and daily activity sheets. These bags will be ready for pick up (or sent by mail if you're out of town) at the church a few days before VBS begins.

Please invite your friends and relatives to join in the week of fun with us.

There will be no registration fee for VBS in 2020.



**Be strong in the Lord and in the  
strength of his power. Ephesians 6:10**

# PANCAKES FOR PENTECOST



Thank you for the pancake picture submissions on Pentecost Sunday. In addition to terrific music organized by Jerry Hoover, many families had pancakes at home to help support the Pentecost Special Offering. Over \$300 will be sent to Disciples Mission Fund this month due to your generosity.



Use the following link if you'd like to sign up for the blood drive located in the CCC Wunderlich Family Llife Center this Sunday.

<https://www.redcross.org/>

## COMMUNITY GARDEN PHASE 2

This Sunday we will begin implementing phase two of the garden. We are doing our best to maintain social distancing. And like the first work day, we plan to move soil, compost and wood chips. Cold drinks will be provided and we'll have a sprinkler set up for the kiddos. Please bring a shovel, wheelbarrow and gloves if you have them.

Use the link below to sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090448a8ad2da7fe3->



# RIOT: TURNING OVER TABLES

Worship: June 28th  
4pm Pacific / 5pm Mountain /  
6pm Central / 7pm Eastern



Live on Facebook & YouTube

Learn More: <http://disciplesalliance.org/riot/>

Register Now for the After Worship Celebration on Zoom

CCC  
623 Meramec Station Road  
Manchester, MO 63021

Rev. Jacob Thorne, Senior Minister  
Beth Bean, Office Manager  
636.394.2772  
[office@disciplesforchrist.org](mailto:office@disciplesforchrist.org)  
[www.disciplesforchrist.org](http://www.disciplesforchrist.org)