



# The Vital Spark

A NEWSLETTER OF COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH ~ NOVEMBER, 2022

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

Dear Community,

In his book "Thoughts in Solitude," the late Thomas Merton wrote, *"To be grateful is to recognize the Love of God in everything He has given us—and He has given us everything. Every breath we draw is a gift of His love, every moment of existence is a grace, for it brings with it immense graces from Him. Gratitude therefore takes nothing for granted, is never unresponsive, is constantly awakening to new wonder and to praise of the goodness of God. For the grateful (person) knows that God is good, not by hearsay but by experience. And that is what makes all the difference."*

Over the past few days, I have seen the goodness of God and our community. The celebration of life that we had for Linda Newton was a heartwarming reassurance of God's steadfast love and faithfulness. I am so grateful for the way that our community gathered together to remember Linda's life, be reminded of God's promises, and sit with one another around the table to break bread and share stories.

And then...to turn around and prepare for the next day's Thanksgiving's Feast of over 200, wow! Again, none of this would be possible without the many volunteers who helped clean, set-up tables, prepare decorations, and, the following morning, put everything back away. I can say, truthfully, that God is good by the experience I have encountered with each of you.

The season of Advent begins this Sunday. And when it does, we will mark the start of our tenth year as pastor and parishioner. For all of the love and grace we have already experienced, and the goodness that is sure to come in the future, thank you. I am grateful.

May you and yours have a blessed Thanksgiving,

Jacob



## BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Book Club returns in January, 2023 with new and exciting selections. More information out next month.

---

## PRISCILLA WOMEN'S GROUP

For our outreach collection, we are providing new toys for the school-age children served by Urban Reach STL.

The December Christmas gathering will be a carry-in dinner at the home of Betty Quicksall on Tuesday, December 13th. Plan to join us for a time of study, fellowship, service and prayer along with an update on our sponsor child.

---

## ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO SERVE?

We are still looking for people to serve as Elders and Deacons.

---

## MISSION UPDATE

### URBAN REACH TOY DRIVE

Gifts should be valued at \$25. No battery operated toys, please. Also, if you purchase a doll, please choose an African American doll.

They need to be at church by **December 4th**.

We truly appreciate all the items you have donated to these projects. Your generosity brings a lot of happiness to others.

CCC Mission Team



## PICK UP CHOIR

Advent is here and 'tis the season of sharing. Come share your singing voices! All are invited to join the choir on Sunday, December 4th to join in singing "Peace On Earth/Little Drummer Boy" as made popular by Bing Crosby and David Bowie.

We will meet at 9:35 AM to rehearse in the choir room. Copies of the song will be available at the information desk on Sunday, November 27th if you would like to get an early look at the music

(Original 2-Part voicing).



## CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

### Christmas Eve

The Sanctuary will open  
at 4:30pm for Christmas music.

Worship at 5:00 pm

### Christmas Day

Worship is at 10:00 am  
Simple service with special music



# Ladies Luncheon

Friday December 2

Josephine's

Tea Room and Gift Shop in Godfrey, IL

Arrive at the Narthex by 11:00 am for a little shopping then lunch at 12:30 pm.

Sign up sheet will be in the Narthex or call / email the office



Our next blood drive is

**December 6th**

2pm- 7pm

See the sign up link in the weekly email

or paste this link in your browser

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=CommChristianCh>

## URBAN REACH NIGHT OF HOPE

This is an event designed specifically for the parents of the URSTL children and youth. Organizations, including CCC, are collecting toys for Christmas presents. At the Night of Hope, parents will arrive, be served a meal, an invited to “shop” for their children. It’s a really special night, meant to build trust and thanksgiving.

Volunteers are needed from 3:30-8:00. There are two different shifts available. We will assist with setting up tables, serving food, helping parents shop for gifts, wrapping gifts and clean-up. Parking will be in the back of the school.

It would be wonderful to have volunteers from CCC present.

A link to sign up will be in the weekly email

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040448acac22abfe3-night>



Thank You!

Thank you seems so inadequate for all that has been done for Ted and me during the last two months. The meals, cards, prayers, flowers, and visits have been so appreciated. They brightened my two months of only being able to sit in a recliner and watch TV! Everyone in the Villas were very surprised that our church brought meals to us - we said because it is not just a church, it is our church family!

We appreciate you all so much and are looking forward to being back real soon.

With much love,

Cindy & Ted Hermann

November 1, 2022

Community Christian Church  
623 Meramec Station Road  
Manchester, MO 63021-5550



www.globalministries.org

Indianapolis Office  
P.O. Box 1986  
Indianapolis, IN 46206-1986  
(317) 713-2551  
email: dom@disciples.org

Cleveland Office  
700 Prospect Avenue  
Cleveland, OH 44115-1100  
(216) 736-3202  
email: wcm@ucc.org

Dear Friends:

Global Ministries thanks you for your gift in the amount of \$1,725. Gifts like yours support Global Ministries and global partners working together for justice, reconciliation, and peace.

Giving a Life-Changing Gift is one of the most meaningful ways to honor, remember or celebrate the loved ones in your life. Many enjoy giving a gift on special occasions such as holidays, birthdays, ordination anniversaries, weddings, and more. Through Global Ministries, you can find gift opportunities to support and make a life-changing difference in the lives of families around the world. In recognition of the loved one you are honoring or remembering, Global Ministries will send your loved one a card sharing the news of the gift you've made. Some of the global themes for life-changing gifts include climate justice, women's empowerment, health and education.

Whether your gift is undesignated, for the appointment of a mission co-worker, for the work of a specific partner or in a specific country, or for a global theme, any gift to Global Ministries can be shared in memory or in honor of someone near and dear to you. The Global Ministries Life-Changing Gifts catalog can be found on our website, or you may contact us at gifts@dom.disciples.org or 317-713-2555 to request your FREE copy today!

Thank you for choosing to join us in this journey alongside global partners.

Blessings,

*India Bobadilla*

India Bobadilla  
Executive for Resource Development  
Global Ministries  
P.O. Box 1986  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-1986  
Telephone: 317-713-2558  
indiab@dom.disciples.org  
www.globalministries.org



This letter will serve as acknowledgement of your gift. No goods or services were issued in exchange for this gift.

Indianapolis  
Rev. Lalmarco Cable  
Co-Executive, Global Ministries  
President, Division of Overseas Ministries

Cleveland  
Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson  
Co-Executive, Global Ministries  
Associate General Minister, Wider Church Ministries



Heifer International gratefully recognizes

### Community Christian Church

for your contribution of healthy animals and training  
in their care to help struggling families overcome a life of hunger and poverty.  
"The Earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein." Psalm 24:1

*Christy Moore*  
Heifer International

September 2022  
Date



**THANKSGIVING  
FEAST 2022**



**CCC  
623 Meramec Station Road  
Manchester, MO 63021**

**Rev. Jacob Thorne, Senior Minister  
Becky Sternitzky, Office Manager  
Beth Bean, Ministry Associate  
636.394.2772  
office@disciplesforchrist.org  
www.disciplesforchrist.org**