



The Vital Spark

A NEWSLETTER OF COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH ~ JUNE 2023

MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR MINISTER, REV. JACOB THORNE

Dear Community,

I am thrilled to share the news that Katie Zimmer has joined the staff as our new Office and Building Manager. We are confident that Katie will make a significant impact in the life of our faith community as we continue to grow our missions and ministry.

Katie is married to her husband, Kevin, who serves as the site manager for Camp MoVal, the UCC camp just outside of Union, Missouri. Together, they have three children—Laura, Michael, and Georgia. During the summer, Katie and her family spend most of their time at the camp and during the school year all three kids attend elementary school in the Rockwood School District.

Katie brings a wealth of experience interacting with others and developing personal relationships. For the past five years she has worked in the foster and adoption care community. And, as an added bonus, Katie's parents, Randy and Judy McLain, are some of our newest members at Community.

Please feel free to stop by the church office, call, or send an email welcoming Katie to Community. We will have an official welcome reception for Katie following worship, soon. I am excited about this new adventure and think Katie is a wonderful fit.

In the meantime, please know that I continue to hold each of you in my prayers and look forward to seeing you on Sunday.

Blessings,

Jacob



Book Discussion Group

The CCC Book Discussion Group will be meeting on Monday, July 17th in the Narthex for a conversation about the book, *Dreaming of Flight* by Catherine Ryan Hyde.

Please contact Brenda Richardson for additional information about the group.

PRIDEFEST 2023 – BOOTH AND PARADE ASSISTANCE NEEDED

The annual PrideFest Festival for St. Louis will be held this weekend, June 24 and June 25. This year's theme is: Diversity Creates Community. If you would like to help with the booth that will be hosted by area churches, (and organized by Jeff Clifton), please use the following link:



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090448A8AD2DA7FE3-docpridefest2>

Blood Drive Report

Thank you to all who came out to donate blood at Tuesday's blood drive. Summertime is always challenging to keep up our area blood supply, but the American Red Cross collected 19 units, which will help many people in need. Our next blood drive is scheduled for Sept 5 and is already open for scheduling if you so desire to sign up early. Liz Dupuis, Blood Program Leader.

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

THANK YOU !

Every morning I thank God that Community Christian Church is the congregation that lives its mission to deliver God's tender loving care to everyone, everywhere, all the time, no matter what. Sometimes (like now) the next steps are tough, very tough, but you are there for us, you have always been there, and we know that you will continue to do so...and for that we thank you.

Sincerely,

in Christ,

Ted Herman and Family

MISSION

Circle of Concern

In memory of longtime church member, Carl Quicksall, we will be having a food drive during the month of July. Carl volunteered for many years at Circle of Concern. When asked, Circle answered that they are greatly in need of cereal, especially in the summer when children are eating breakfast at home. We would like to gather a large amount of cereal to donate. There will be a place in the Mission Corner of the Narthex to put the cereal. Other items the Circle mentions being in need of are oatmeal packets, canned pasta, and baking supplies.

Thank you in advance for your help with this project.

Garden Updates

The garden produce is donated to Circle of Concern and also to families of Hanna Woods. Currently, we are growing potatoes, garlic, strawberries, raspberries, lettuce, carrots, green beans, spinach, okra, kale, onions, herbs and flowers.



SUMMER MEALS FOR URBAN REACH



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