



The Vital Spark

A NEWSLETTER OF COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH ~ JUNE 2024

MESSAGE FROM OUR SENIOR MINISTER, REV. JACOB THORNE

Dear Community,

As our liturgy proclaimed on Pentecost morning, we have transitioned from being an “Easter People” to being a “Pentecost People.” In essence, being a “Pentecost People” means that the same Spirit that gave birth to Jesus, empowered the Apostles, and inspired Paul's preaching is now breathing and working through us, so that the presence of God can be born anew. The Spirit of God moves from one generation to the next.

But what happens when we don't always feel the Spirit? What if we begin to have doubts about our faith? Does this mean we can't be “Pentecost People”?

Starting this Sunday, I will begin a new sermon series that aims to answer these questions. Based on Adam Hamilton's latest book, "Wrestling with Doubt, Finding Faith," we will explore the following six questions and topics:

1. Does God exist?
2. The trouble with the Bible
3. Do non-Christians go to Heaven?
4. Does Heaven really exist?
5. Unanswered prayers.
6. Why do innocent people suffer?

This series is designed to help us navigate our doubts and strengthen our faith, reminding us that questioning is a natural part of spiritual growth. I invite you to join us on this journey of exploration and discovery as we seek to deepen our understanding and connection with God.

I look forward to seeing you this Sunday, if not before.

Blessings,

Jacob

Bottle Caps to Benches

The Mission Team is starting a new project. We will be collecting plastic bottle caps and product lids. These will be given to an organization which takes the plastic bottle caps and lids and recycles them into benches and picnic tables.

A box is in the Mission corner of the narthex, where you can place your clean and dry plastic bottle caps & lids.

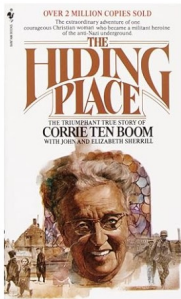
Here are the types of lids and caps needed:

1. Drink bottle caps (soda, water, milk, sports drinks, orange juice, etc.)
2. Flip top and spout caps (ketchup, mustard)
3. Kids' snack pouches (applesauce, yogurt)
4. Detergent caps
5. Hairspray caps
6. Spray paint caps
7. Medicine or pill bottle caps
8. Shampoo/conditioner caps
9. Deodorant caps
10. Coffee can lids, peanut butter, cream cheese, Cool Whip, mayonnaise lids, etc.



Remember, we want only caps and lids, no bottles.

Thanks for your help in keeping these plastic items out of landfills and our oceans.



Book Discussion Group

The CCC Book Discussion Group will be meeting on Monday, June 17th in the Narthex for a conversation about the book, *The Hiding Place* by Corrie Ten Boom. Please contact Brenda Richardson for additional information about the group.

Thank you

Dear Church:

It is with deep gratitude that we thank you so much for the special "send off" as we finally depart for Minnesota. Thank you Jacob and you Elders for the prayers and "laying on of hands" that morning. I must say that it was so calming for our tangled emotions! The beautiful and tasty cake was enjoyed by all of us. The Church Plaque is proudly displayed in our "patio room" here at the townhouse. We are also so moved by the Recipe Box titled "From your friends at CCC" and to have it include 39 recipes from CCC friends is so great. I hope to try one each week! Please know that Community Christian Church will always have a piece of our heart. We only pray that we will find another church family here in the Faribault area as warm, welcoming, inclusive, and loving as you all are! Please come visit if you are ever in the area.

new address... 2905 Village Drive, Faribault, MN 55021.

New Email ribulze@gmail.com

Same cell phone numbers: Liz 314-609-4961 and Rich 314-520-6842.



Urban Reach - Packing Lunches

Urban Reach needs assistance this summer providing lunches for Summer Bible School. CCC will be packing lunches on June 4th and June 11th. We will start at 9:30am and are typically finished by 11:00am. If you would like to assist with packing lunches please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Who is ready to roll up their sleeve to donate? Our next blood drive on June 4th, is open for scheduling! Go to [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org) and enter CommChristianCh to schedule an appointment time.



Pridefest: Help Needed



The booth for PrideFest has been reserved for June 29 and 30th, downtown near the Soldiers Memorial. We will be decorating prayer stones, handing out fans, giving out communion and information about Disciples congregations. You can also help by saving your gallon milk jugs. We will need 12 one gallon jugs to weigh down the tent. Please rinse them out and include the cap. A box will be set up in the choir room to collect them.



Special Music for Summer

We are looking for special music for the summer months. Special music could be singing, playing an instrument, interpretive dancing, reading a poem that speaks to you - any type of talent you would like to share with the church. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Scott Degitz-Fries at degdawg@gmail.com

2024 Camp Dates(all camp go by just completed Grade)

Neola Mup at Jo Ota

Try It Camp-

June 7-9 \$225/pair

Adult or parent must come with Child PreK-2nd grade

CYF - July 8-13

\$375 9th-12th grade

Elem \$185 2nd -3rd grade /**Ir** \$335 4th-5th Grade

July 15-19 (Elem goes home the 17th)

Chi Rho - July 28-August 2

\$375 6th-7th grade**

Faith Adventures

July 22- 26th - \$195

JYF (2nd-5th grade),
Chi Rho (6th-7th grade ,
and CYF (9th-12th grade)

Try It- \$95/pair

July 25-26 PreK-1st grade

Adult or parent must
come with Child

North West

Chi Rho- June 29-July 3

\$230 6th-8th grade

CYF- July 6-11

\$230 9th-12th grade

123 Go- July 13-15 \$150

K-2nd grade

Junior - July 17-21

\$230 3rd-5th grade

Combo (Junior & Chi Rho)

July 23-27

\$230

Our Bodies Our Faith \$385

July 28-August 2

at Camp MOVAL

8th grade (9th graders are
welcome is they have never
attended)

Regional

Sons & Fathers Retreat

Oct. 11-13 at Shannondale

\$190 for son and father

together; \$99 per single

adult 5th-8th grade



Visit: <https://www.mid-america-disciples.org/summer> for more information about 2024 summer camp

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