

# the CONNECT

MONTHLY NEWS & EVENTS AT NEW COMMUNITY CHURCH



## OVERCOMING FEARS

Virginia Hankins // Administrative Assistant

"17 – year old gunned down in East St. Louis..." "East St. Louis Police shoot armed person at apartment complex..." "14 year old boy from Metro East shot and killed..." "When most of us think of East St. Louis, these are the headlines that flash through our minds. The thought of sending our children, or our families into that environment is far outside of our comfort zone, it's terrifying. However, Christ told his disciples in Matthew, chapter 10, that he was sending them as sheep in the midst of wolves. We see countless stories in Scripture of God sending His people into places that are far outside of their comfort zones, and then we get to see Him work in miraculous ways. We see Joshua lead God's people into the promised land, a land where "the people are stronger and taller; the cities are large, with walls up to the sky. They even saw Anakites [a race of giant, warlike people] (Deuteronomy 1:28)." God's people were afraid to go where he was sending them because they had no idea of God's plan to provide a wonderful land for His people; they were blinded by their fear. We also see Jonah, a messenger sent to a city full of peoples that he considered to be his enemies. He desired to see them destroyed to satisfy his own desire for justice, as he believed that these ruthless, war-hungry people who did not seem to know the difference between right and wrong, were deserving of being completely destroyed. This book is a beautiful example to us of what it looks like to rejoice in the spread of the "good news" to all peoples, no matter their cultural background, no matter their past sins, no matter their race. When we reflect on our own sin, and our own evil desires, it should be a reminder that none of us are deserving of the "good news" of the gospel. We must remind ourselves that the people of East St. Louis are no more or less deserving of this truth than you and I. When I moved to St. Louis, those headlines were the only things that flashed through my mind when I heard of East St. Louis as well, but simply because of the things I had been told by others. Now, after 4 years of serving in East St. Louis on a regular basis, serving alongside of incredible students, volunteers, and staff of R3, I no longer see those headlines. When I think of East St. Louis, I think of all that God is doing there. I think of how brightly the light of Christ is shining there, and the gracious, sacrificial hearts of those I serve with. I think of the teachers who serve the students during internships to share the story of the gospel with them, or teach them how to Biblically communicate in the workplace, or provide practical resources of how to handle finances wisely. I see living sacrifices walking the streets of East St. Louis, and I am so thankful that the Lord has allowed me to walk among them, to learn from them, and to love them all for the sake of Christ. Every Second Saturday, a small group of servants from NCC head to East St. Louis to serve alongside students from the Metro East to change the narrative of East St. Louis and spread the light of Christ. Please prayerfully consider stepping outside of your comfort zone and joining us. †



**R3 Second Saturday**  
Saturday, February 8th  
8:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Please Sign Up Online

**Thrive: Parent University**  
Thursday, February 27rd  
5:00 pm - 8:30 pm  
Please Sign Up Online



**MEN'S BREAKFAST**  
February 15 / 8:00 AM / \$5



**ASCEND WINTER RETREAT**  
**LOGAN VALLEY CENTER**  
**FEBRUARY 21 - 23RD**  
**TOTAL COST: \$125**  
**DEPOSIT DUE: JAN 29TH**  
**FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE**  
**MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL**  
**PLEASE SIGN UP ONLINE**

## FEBRUARY EVENTS

### FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THESE EVENTS:

visit ncc-stl.org lobby or information center registration required church app

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7 // 6:30 PM**

**NCC LOBBY**

**WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP NIGHT**

Please join us for an evening of fellowship and we preview this year's events.

Karen S. karenscheidhauer@gmail.com

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8 // 8:00 AM**

**EAST ST. LOUIS, IL**

**R3 SECOND SATURDAY**

Serve together for the sake of the gospel and change the narrative of East St. Louis.

Paul DeYoung paul@ncc-stl.org

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15 // 8:00 AM**

**NCC LOBBY**

**MEN'S BREAKFAST**

Men enjoy breakfast and a time of fellowship all for just \$5.

Paul DeYoung paul@ncc-stl.org

**FEBRUARY 21-23**

**LOGAN VALLEY CHRISTIAN RETREAT CENTER**

**ASCEND WINTER RETREAT**

A special session dedicated to facing the holidays after the loss of a loved one.

Drew Nilius drew@ncc-stl.org

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27 // 5:00 PM**

**HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**THRIVE: PARENT UNIVERSITY**

Join us as we serve those parents who have chosen life for their children.

Nancy DeYoung ndey118@gmail.com

# THE BULLETIN BOARD

## NEED TO CONNECT AT NCC?

We send out a weekly newsletter, prayer requests and special announcements through email and the app. Stop by the Information Center or the website to sign up for our communications.

## MISSING SOMETHING?

Lost items are waiting to be found at the Information Center. Items are purged once a month so be sure to stop by and see if your items are there!

## LOOKING TO SERVE?

"To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." How are you serving the body of Christ? Stop by the Information Center to discuss service opportunities that best utilize your gifts.



to glorify God // to make disciples // to share God's love

## CONNECT WITH US

16801 Manchester Rd  
Wildwood, MO 63040  
admin@ncc-stl.org  
636.458.4744

### OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Friday: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm  
2634 Highway 109  
Suite A  
Wildwood, MO 63040

### NCC ONLINE

WEB  
ncc-stl.org

### TWITTER

@NCCWildwood

### FACEBOOK

facebook.com/NCCWildwood

### INSTAGRAM

@newcommunitystl

### NCC ON AIR

#### CUTTING IT STRAIGHT

KSIV 91.5 FM  
Saturdays: 9:30 am

### ELDER PRAYER LINE

636.458.4744 ext. 16

## MINISTRY STAFF

Jerry Marshall  
PASTOR-TEACHER

Jeremiah Kirberg  
PASTOR OF ADMINISTRATION

Ray Mehninger  
MINISTER TO FAMILIES

Drew Nilius  
MINISTER TO STUDENTS

Virginia Hankins  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT



Women's Fellowship Night

Friday, February 7th

New Community Church

6:30 - 9:00 PM

The remaining amount of our construction loan has been merged with our regular commercial loan at a lower interest rate. For those with a remaining balance on your pledge, please direct those funds toward general giving. Funds given in excess of our general budget will go towards this debt.



## Book of the Month

### RISK IS RIGHT: Better To Lose Your Life Than To Waste It

John Piper

A choice lies before you: Either waste your life or live with risk. Either sit on the sidelines or get in the game. After all, life was no cakewalk for Jesus, and he didn't promise it would be any easier for his followers. We shouldn't be surprised by resistance and persecution. Yet most of us play it safe.

We pursue comfort. We spend ourselves to get more stuff. And we prefer to be entertained. We are all tempted by the idea of security, the possibility of a cozy Christianity with no hell at the end. But what kind of life is that really? It's a far cry from adventurous and abundant, from truly rich and really full, and it's certainly not the heights and the depths Jesus calls us to. Discover in these pages a foundation for fearlessness. Hear God's promise to go with you into the unknown. And let Risk Is Right help you see the joys of a faith-filled and seriously rewarding life of Jesus-dependent abandon!

