



April 3, 2022

9:55 AM

WORSHIP MUSIC

Goodbye, World, Goodbye
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms
Down to the River to Pray
Loving God, Loving Each Other

SPECIAL MUSIC

Were You There?
Chelsea Buyalos

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 7:7-14
NRSV

MESSAGE

“Ask, Seek, Knock”
Rev. Nathan Decker

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>SERMON TITLE</u> | <u>SCRIPTURE</u> | |
|--------------------|---|-------------------------|-------------------|
| April 10 | <i>Easter Cantata: One Holy Lamb</i> | | |
| April 17 | <i>The Garden of Fear and Trembling</i> | Mark 16:1-8 | <i>NRSV</i> |
| April 24 | <i>Looking for the Living</i> | Romans 6:3-11 | <i>God's Word</i> |
| May 1 | <i>Blinded by Our Agendas</i> | Acts 9:1-6 | |

STAFF DIRECTORY

Ministers..... All Members of the Congregation
Senior Pastor: Nathan Decker.....nathandecker@chesterumc.org
Associate Pastor: Chad Beck.....chadbeck@chesterumc.org
Minister of Music/Office Assistant: Joshua Wortham..... music@chesterumc.org
Office Manager: Terry Wisegarver..... cumcsecretary@chesterumc.org
Financial Specialist: Julie Jones finance@chesterumc.org
Nursery Specialist:Alistia Mabry
Nursery Assistant:.....Carla Adams
MS & HS Youth Ministry (Jennifer Barnes, Jeff Geisz, Gordon Morris).....youthleaders@chesterumc.org

**NO BRIDGE
SERVICE
NEXT WEEK**



ONLINE GIVING

A Community in Christ

Chester United Methodist Church

Rooted in God, Growing in Christ, Bearing Fruit in the Spirit

12132 Percival Street, Chester, Virginia 23831 * Church: (804) 748-6006 Fax: (804) 748-0859

Web Site: www.chesterumc.org * A Stephen Ministry Congregation



FRESH START SERVICE

April 3, 2022—8:30 AM



Please sign the teal attendance pad and pass it to your neighbor.

WORSHIP MUSIC

Majestic
What a Friend
Did You Feel the Mountains Tremble?
I Will Follow

SPECIAL MUSIC

Were You There?
Chelsea Buyalos

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 7:7-14
NRSV

MESSAGE

“Ask, Seek, Knock”
Rev. Nathan Decker

April 3, 2022

A Service of Worship and Praise
11:00 AM

5th Sunday
in Lent

Please sign the red attendance pad, register for activities, and pass it to your neighbor.

Welcome, Announcements and Greeting

Chimes

Prelude

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Organist

* Call to Worship¹

Leader: Come, if you are willing.

People: Come into this place,

Leader: but be prepared to find yourself sitting next to your worst enemy.

People: Come into this place,

Leader: but be prepared to find yourself offering prayer with someone whose values and way of life revolt you.

People: Come into this place,

Leader: but be prepared to find yourself in dark places, dark thoughts, that you would prefer to remain unacknowledged.

People: Be prepared to know you are loved,

Leader: but be prepared also for the outrageous news that every other human being is loved no more and no less, no matter what you or they do.

People: Come, if you will.

Leader: but be prepared for an uncertainty that will not quickly be resolved, for a discomfort that will not easily be salved, for a hunger that will not willingly be satisfied.

People: Come, if you are willing.

* Opening Prayer ²

O Mysterious God, who hides in the shadows of our steps, who surprises in ways inexpressible, who lingers in paradox: ignite our spirits to revel in your presence, inspire our souls to dance in your mystery, free our minds to rest in your holiness, fully comforted, totally quiet, completely yours.

In the name of Christ, the Mysterious Word made flesh. Amen.

* Opening Hymn No. 98

To God Be the Glory

Anthem

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

Chancel Choir

Why We Give

Offertory

Were You There?

Chelsea Buyalos

- * Doxology No. 95
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him, above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

Hymn No. 405

Seek Ye First

Scripture

Matthew 7:7-14

NRSV

Sermon

Ask, Seek, Knock

Rev. Nathan Decker

Holy Communion

- * Closing Hymn No. 571 *God, Make of All Disciples*

- * Benediction

- * Choral Amen

* *Please stand as you are able.* **Bold print indicates a response in unison.**

Hearing Assistance Devices, Large Print Hymnals, and Braille Hymn Sheets are available for use in the Sanctuary. Please ask an usher.

Worship Resources: Traditions Service

¹ Claudio Varvalhaes, *Liturgies from Below: Praying with People at the Ends of the World*, Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2020.

² Mark Parsons, *Worship and Song Worship Resources, #51*, Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2011.

CALENDAR
April 3-10, 2022

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 8:30 AM–2:00 PM

Preschool Hours: Mon-Thurs 9:30 AM-1:30 PM

Today: 8:30 AM Nursery until 12:15 PM
Fresh Start Service-DFH

9:30 AM Children’s Sun Sch-DFH

9:45 AM NO CONNECTIONS

Adult Sunday School

Youth Sun Sch.-LOFT

9:55 AM Bridge Service-Sanc

The Bridge-Livestream

11:00 AM Traditions Service-Sanc

Traditions-Livestream

4:00 PM NO MS/HS Youth

6:30 PM NO Bridge Builders

Mon.: 2:00 PM Village People-offsite

7:00 PM Jean Craig F’ship-205

Tues.: 10:30 AM Joy Singers

3:30 PM NO Rest Stop

Wed.: 10:00 AM Visitation -226

12:00 PM Bridge Builders-Online

Thurs.: 7:00 PM Chancel Choir-Music Suite

7:30 AM Men’s Group-Grant’s Coffee

11:00 AM Contemplative Prayer-Parlor

1:30 PM Prayer Shawl

Fri.:

Sat.: 10:00 AM Cantata Choir-Sanc

Next Sunday: April 10, 2022

8:30 AM Nursery until 12:15 PM

Easter Cantata-Sanc/Stream

9:30 AM Children’s Sun Sch-DFH

9:45 AM Adult Sunday School

Youth Sun Sch.-LOFT

9:55 AM NO Bridge Service

11:00 AM Easter Cantata-Sanc/Stream

4:00 PM MS/HS Youth-Annex Loft

6:30 PM Bridge Builders-226

Online Giving: Scan the QR code (on the front of the bulletin) with your smartphone to contribute online or visit www.chesterumc.org and click “Online Giving.”



Leading Our Worship TODAY, April 3, 2022

Greeters: 8:30 Bill & Karen Comer

9:55 Stephanie Decker

11:00 Will Schmidt, Mary Musselwhite

Ushers: 8:30 Dave Coker*, Bill Comer, Ron Dombrowski *Indicates Head Usher

9:55 Gordon Morris*, Jim Watkins

11:00 Gary Williams*, Larry Koon, Emory Large, Tommy Petrey

Nursery: 8:30, 9:55, 11:00 Staff Members, Alistia Mabry & Carla Adams

*We are truly blessed if you are a guest who has chosen to worship with us today!
First-time guests are invited to pick up a blue Welcome Bag from the Atrium or
Narthex. Thank you for celebrating the Lord with us today!*

Our Parish Nurse, Cindy Webb is in today (9:00-10:45, Office 111).

Livestreaming Our Sunday Services starts TODAY with The Bridge and Traditions services. Next week, Fresh Start and Traditions will livestream the Easter Cantata (NO Bridge Service). Tune in via Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/ChesterUnitedMethodistChurch>) or YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/c/ChesterUMC>)

Sunday Soles—Faith on the Move: Sundays at 3:30 PM, at the Annex, weather permitting. If you want to join us, please make sure to grab your favorite sneakers with some good soles ... because moving is good for the Soul! Check the church Fb page for cancellation or time changes for the walk/run. We start with a group warm-up and then a 2-mile loop. We provide routes so you can go at your own pace. Bring a friend or come and make a new friend! POCs: Sarah Bowers (massagebysarahb@gmail.com) and Natalie Galarza (familygalarza05@gmail.com).

Order Your Chester UMC T-Shirts: One of the easiest ways for us to be witnesses for Christ in our community is to wear a shirt that somehow says "You'll See Christ's Love in Me." The shirts are soft, 60/40 blend, heather red with black ink in sizes Youth (XS-XL) and Adult (S-4X) Check out the design in today's bulletin. We will place our first order next week. Donations to cover the cost of yours or other Disciple's shirts are appreciated. *Please sign up in the pew pad with the sizes and number of shirts for you and/or your family.*

Community Easter Egg Hunt: Saturday, April 16, 10:00 AM, Goyne Park Playground (5300 Ecoff Ave). The non-readers will hunt in the flat open space, and the readers will hunt over by the school. We need lots more candy, so *please register in the pew pad if you can donate candy (no chocolate)*. Put your donations in the labeled bin in the Missions Closet.

Feed More at Greenleigh: Friday, April 15, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM. CUMC volunteers man this food distribution 4 times a year. Sign up to help through our daily email news or by contacting the church office. POC: Eric Houglan (ehouglan88@gmail.com)

Easter Cards for Veterans: Due Sunday, April 10, in the Sharing Bin or Missions Closet. Share the Easter message or "Happy Spring" wishes with the veterans at McGuire Hospital and Sitter Barfoot Veterans Care Center. Please, do NOT sign your last name or seal the envelop. POC: Barbara MacIntyre (telluwhatbarbara@aim.com)

Rest Stop Fishing Excursion: Tuesday, April 26, at the Appomattox Regional Park (800 Folar Trail, N Prince George, VA 23860). We will gather at the Education Shelter and fish from 3:30-5:00 PM. We need volunteers to come fellowship with the students and teach them how to fish. Contact Bobby Henderson (rhen6020@gmail.com) or *sign up in the pew pad.*

KEEP IN PRAYER: Shirley Burgess (mother of Jan Bryant); Suzanna Burr (sister of Cindy Yuoconis); Debbie Yerby; Liliana Napolitano (granddaughter of Deborah & Bob Napolitano); Cecelia Caruso (close friend of Talina Beck); family of Kylie Moore’s grandmother; Hazel June Harvey-Sidell (newborn daughter of Renee Harvey & Jessica Sidell); D Mark Benedict; Ava Gray (14-year-old daughter of John & Amy Gray); family of Blake Arpin (son of Bev Nelan); of Debbie Hubley (Stella Drake, Terri Martin); Cornelia DeWitt; Oscar Turner (friend of Cornelia’s); family of Glenn Brubaker; Kay Murphy (aunt of Gordon Morris); Clayton Herring (brother of Linda Mottley); Heather Escobar; Debbie Freed; Janean Trimble; Doug and Clara Gestwick.

Our Presence March 27, 2022

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Fresh Start | 81 |
| The Bridge..... | 80 |
| Traditions | 156 |
| Online/Call In | 16 |
| Total Worship Attendance..... | 333 |

Children’s Sunday School meets at 9:30 AM in the fellowship hall. We will offer a time of games (until about 10:00 AM), a Bible lesson, music, and prayer for children in grades PK-5. All are welcome! To volunteer, please contact Carrie Coyner (carrie.coyner@gmail.com).

CHESTER UMC ONLINE RESOURCES

- **Website:** www.chesterumc.org.
- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/ChesterUnitedMethodistChurch/>.
- **Facebook Closed Group:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ChesterUMC/>.
- **Daily Email News:** Visit <http://eepurl.com/blV9Tv> to subscribe.
- **Daily Devotionals from Pastor Nathan:** <https://www.facebook.com/BetterTogether.Devos/>.
- **YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/c/ChesterUMC>.
- **Prayer Chain Email:** to subscribe or to submit a prayer request, email Terry at cumcsecretary@chesterumc.org with “Prayer Chain” or “Prayer Request” in the subject line.
- **CUMC Library Catalog:** <https://16538.rmwebopac.com> (password: CUMC). Search for titles, peruse our inventory, and much more. POC: Ron Dombrowski (rmachachi@aol.com).
- **The Chimes**, bi-monthly newsletter: Submit items to communication@chesterumc.org on 3rd Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November.

Join the Fresh Start Sunday School Class in Study, Fellowship and Service:

- ***The Grace of Les Miserables*** by Matt Rawle. This Lent, ponder the themes of justice, poverty, freedom, and love. In the six-week Lenten study, author and pastor Matt Rawle dives into six ideals found in the story—grace, justice, poverty, revolution, love, and hope—each represented by a character in Hugo’s story.
- **Class** meets every Sunday morning at 9:45 in room 205 (opposite the church library). Visitors and new members are always welcome. Call Susan Petrey, 938-5396, for more information.

Seekers Sunday School Class: You are cordially invited to join us in study and fellowship March 6-April 17 as we do a DVD Lenten study by Adam Hamilton, *24 Hours That Changed the World*. Our class meets every week from 9:45 to 10:45 AM in Room 226. Y’all come!

POC: Barbara MacIntyre (telluwhatbarbara@aim.com)

United Methodist Women:

- The **Jean Craig Fellowship** will meet on Monday, April 4, 7:00 p.m. Room 205. We will pack cookies and deliver them to our local first responders. We welcome any women who are looking for an evening circle. Call Susan Petrey (804-938-3596) for details.
- The **Ada Mae Bookman Fellowship** will meet on Thursday, April 14, **10:30 AM** in the Fellowship Hall. Call Martha Miles, 748-5476, for more information.
- **Salad Luncheon**—All Women of the Church are invited to a luncheon meeting of the UMW Sunday, April 24, immediately following 11 o’clock worship. Our program will consist of our annual Call to Prayer and Self-Denial and the UMW Reading Program. The Jean Craig Fellowship will host. Bring a salad or dessert to share.
- **Women’s Accessories Drive** to benefit the CCHASM Women’s Career Clothes Closet, located in the Chester UMC Missions Cottage (12117 Percival Street). Place good used purses, summer shoes and sandals, belts, scarves, and costume jewelry in the Collection Bin in the Mission Closet next to Pastor Nathan’s office by Sunday, May 22. Women residing in the Chesterfield-Colonial Heights service area can shop free of charge by appointment for interview and work attire. Many clients are women who, due to emergency situations, find that they must begin or return to work. Call Susan Petrey, 938-5396, for more information.
- **UMCOR KITS for CONFERENCE— Our goal for this year’s June 16-18 Virginia United Methodist Annual Conference in Hampton is 100 hygiene kits.** The United Methodist Committee on Relief operates two relief depots, one in Salt Lake City and the Sager Brown Depot in Baldwin, Louisiana. For the past several years, CUMC and the UMW have collected materials for and assembled health kits to be sent to Sager Brown. The entire congregation is invited to support this effort by donating items to be packed into kits. Pick up your “assignment ticket” from the display in the Atrium and return the assigned items to the labeled bin in the Missions Closet by noon on Sunday, May 22. POC: Susan Petrey (938-5396)
- **SCHOOL KITS UPDATE**—On March 4, the UMW delivered 110 school kits to U of R for Fox Elementary School at their temporary location at First Baptist Church Thanks for your generosity and faithfulness in August and September when the congregation contributed these items

SUNDAY SMALL GROUPS

Fresh Start Sunday School Class

9:45 AM, Room 205, *The Grace of Les Miserables* by Matt Rawle through April 10
POC: Susan Petrey (susanmpetrey@gmail.com)

Journey Sunday School Class

9:45 AM, Annex and Google Meet (<https://meet.google.com/ptm-pieh-vve>)
March 6 – April 10: *Final Words from the Cross* by Adam Hamilton.
POCs: Carolyn Landis (landisfamily05@gmail.com);
Eric Houglund (ehouglund88@gmail.com)

Seekers Sunday School Class

9:45 AM, Room 226, *March 6 – April 17; 24 Hours That Changed the World* by Adam Hamilton, POC: Barbara MacIntyre (telluwhatbarbara@aim.com)

Senior Singles Sunday School Class

9:45 AM, Parlor, *Simon Peter*, by Adam Hamilton, POC: Cynthia Corley (cacorley@ctsi.net)

Middle and High School Youth Sunday School

9:45 AM, Annex Loft
POC: Dale (fungoboy77@gmail.com) and Karen Clark (klsclark51@gmail.com)

Bridge Builders In-Person

6:30 PM, Room 226, POCs: Terri Dombrowski (profet2d@aol.com), Bobby Henderson (Rhen6020@gmail.com) Before each session, visit <https://vaumc.org/racerelationsvideos/> to watch the short video listed for each date and come with questions, observations, and comments. Sunday study information & schedule is on the Weekly Small Groups page.

Skate for a New Hope in Ukraine: *Wednesday, April 20, 6:30–9:30 PM*; Chester Skateland (2300 Southland Drive, Chester). *Carrie Coyner* is hosting this benefit on behalf of UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief). Cost: \$8 Admission; \$5 Skate Rental; and \$3 Spectators. One hundred percent of all funds given to UMCOR will provide direct assistance to Ukrainians!

Leading Our Worship NEXT SUNDAY, April 10, 2022

| | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Greeters: | 8:30 | Andy & Eileen Steck |
| | 9:55 | Laura Houglund (NO BRIDGE SERVICE, Sunday School will meet) |
| | 11:00 | Linda Large, Donna Nunery |
| Ushers: | 8:30 | Gordon Jones*, Bill Comer, Ron Dombrowski, Dale Clark, Bruce Johnson |
| | 9:55 | NO BRIDGE SERVICE *Indicates Head Usher |
| | 11:00 | Gordon Morris*, Geoff LeSueur, Steve Osborne, Tom Petrey, Scott Pugh |
| Nursery: | 8:30, 9:55, 11:00 | Staff Members, Alistia Mabry & Carla Adams |

WEEKLY SMALL GROUPS

Faith Keepers Women's Prayer Group: Mondays, 9:00 AM at Grants Coffee Co. (11884 Chester Village DR). POC: Julie Ferry (juliejerry@gmail.com)

Christian Parenting Small Group: alternate Mondays, 7:00 PM, Room 116. Next session April 18 (no class on April 4). This short-term small group is completely focused on how our faith guides us to lead our Children to grow. Childcare provided as needed—notify Church Office. POC: Pastor Nathan.

Bridge Builders Online Study Group: Wednesdays, 12:00 PM, Google Meet. We have open, safe conversations based in Jesus's love and reconciliation. **Will NOT meet on APR 13.** POC: Maureen Coker (mcoker2003@comcast.net)

- **Wednesday, April 6:** 9AM-2:30 PM; We will tour the **Moton National Historic Landmark and Museum** (900 Griffin BLVD, Farmville, VA 23901). Those who wish may ride in the Church Van which will depart the church at 9 AM, or you can meet us at the museum. Bring a packed lunch and drink. ALL ARE WELCOME! For planning purposes and van space, please let us know of your intent to attend (Maureen Coker (mcoker2003@comcast.net) or Pastor Chad (chadbeck@chesterumc.org)).
✓ **Wednesday, April 20: Next Online Meeting**
- **SUNDAYS IN-PERSON:** 6:30 PM in Room 226; **Will not meet on APR 3 or APR 17.**
POCs: Terri Dombrowski (profet2d@aol.com), Bobby Henderson (rhen6020@gmail.com)
✓ **April 10:** Farmville Schools, Segregation & Integration
✓ **April 24:** Nonviolent protests and police in 1963 Danville, VA
Before each session, please visit <https://vaumc.org/racerelationsvideos/> to watch the video listed for each date, and come with questions, observations, and comments.

Thursday Morning Men's Group: Thursdays, 7:30 AM at Grants Coffee Co. (11884 Chester Village DR). POC: Vann Stanfield (vannstan34@gmail.com)

Contemplative Prayer Group: Thursdays, 11:00 AM in the Church Parlor. We read scripture and then practice using silence to focus, pray, and connect with God. Please join us. POC: Lisa Stanfield (lisajostanfield@gmail.com)

Prayer Shawl Group: Thursdays, 1:30 PM, in the Church Parlor. All are invited to join us! We will happily teach you how to knit or crochet if you don't already know
POCs: Beverly Trevillian (beverly.trevillian@comcast.net) & June Gilliam (804-748-6668)

Village People Study, Socialize, & Service Group: Mondays, **2:00 PM**, at Chester Village Senior APTS (11701 Chester Village DR) POC: Bruce Johnson (bruce_bethjohnson@yahoo.com)

Christ Caring for People through People: That is the motto of Stephen Ministry. The Stephen Minister's role is to bring God's love into the lives of people who are going through a difficult time or experiencing a crisis. What do Stephen Ministers do? They listen, care, support, encourage, and pray with and for a person who is hurting. And in the midst of this confidential, one-to-one, caring relationship, God's healing love comes pouring through.



If someone you know is facing a crisis—large or small—and could benefit from the caring presence of a Stephen Minister, talk to one of our Stephen Leaders by calling the church office... Our Stephen Ministers are ready to care for you!

VBS 2022 Date CHANGE: Mark your calendars for VBS 2022 scheduled for **JULY 11-15!** This year's theme is "Rocky Railway." Plans are underway and more details are coming. *Please prayerfully consider making a monetary donation to help cover the cost of supplies.* Make checks payable to CUMC (Memo: VBS Fund).

LOOKING AHEAD

- April 10:** Easter Cantata at 8:30 and 11:00 AM in the Sanctuary
- April 12:** Easter Cantata at 7 PM in the Sanctuary
- April 14:** Holy Thurs/Good Friday Service, 7 PM, begins in DFH and moves to Sanctuary
- April 15:** Feed More at Greenleigh, 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM
- April 16:** Easter Egg Hunt at Goynes Park, **10:00 AM**
- April 17:** **Easter Services:** 6:30 AM Sunrise, Annex Lawn, do-nuts afterward
8:30 AM (DFH), 9:55 AM (Sanc.), 11:00 AM (Sanc.)
- April 20:** Skate for a New Hope for Ukraine, 6:30 PM, Chester Skateland
- April 24:** Confirmation Sunday at 8:30 and 11:00 AM services
UMW Salad Luncheon
- April 30:** Choir Tea, **CANCELLED**
- May 8:** Guest Guitarist, Mark Kroos, at all 3 services.
- May 16:** Blood Drive, 11 AM-4 PM, DFH
- May 22:** Graduate Recognition, 8:30 and 11:00 services

2022 Graduate Recognition: Sunday, May 22, 8:30 & 11:00 AM services. Whether you are graduating from high school, college, post-graduate, or trade school—any sort of graduation—we want to celebrate with you! Please register in the pew pad or let the Church Office (cumcsecretary@chesterumc.org) know. **Also**, send us 2 or 3 pictures (no later than May 15) so we can include you in our celebration. Be sure to attend in-person worship on Sunday, May 22, as we pray a blessing over you and honor your achievements!

Maundy Thursday/Good Friday Service: *Thursday, April 14, at 7:00 PM.* This combined service will be a dramatic retelling of the Last Supper and the events which culminated in our Lord's Crucifixion. We will begin in the Fellowship Hall with communion given by the "12 disciples" then move to the Sanctuary for the dramatization of the events leading up to the cross. The entire service will last approximately 1 ½ hours. Seating will be somewhat limited, so it is important for you to sign up if you plan to attend. Please register in the pew pad or contact the Church Office (cumcsecretary@chesterumc.org / 804-748-6006).

Need a Nametag? Contact Terry (cumcsecretary@chesterumc.org) or *register in the pew pad*, indicate how you want your name to appear on the tag, and drop a check in the offering plate (\$10 per nametag, payable to CUMC, Memo: Nametag). Please write legibly.

Chester UMC T-Shirt Design: Front left chest design by Beth Harvey (image below on left) and back design by Charlotte Brummett (image below on right).

