



December 18, 2022

9:55 AM

WORSHIP MUSIC

I Saw the Light
Christmas Carol Medley
How Great Is Our God
Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

SPECIAL MUSIC

Breath of Heaven
Charles & Cheryl Green
Craig and Jill Seal

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 1:18-25
CEV

MESSAGE

“A Reluctant Grandpa”
Rev. Nathan Decker

Having trouble seeing the screen? Just ask an usher for a copy of today’s large print song lyrics.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>SERMON TITLE</u> | <u>SCRIPTURE</u> |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Dec. 24 | <i>An Astonished Shepherd</i> | Luke 2:1-21 KJV |
| Dec. 25 | <i>A Not So On-Time Wiseman</i> | Matthew 2:1-12 CEB |
| Jan. 1 | <i>Awed by the Incarnation</i> | Matthew 2:1-12 CEB |

STAFF DIRECTORY

Ministers..... All Disciples of the Congregation
Lead Pastor: Nathan Deckernathandecker@chesterumc.org
Associate Pastor: Chad Beck.....chadbeck@chesterumc.org
Minister of Music/Office Assistant: Joshua Wortham music@chesterumc.org
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Nursery Specialist..... Carla Adams
Nursery Specialist..... Jessica Hargraves
MS & HS Youth Ministry (Jennifer Brame, Jeff Geisz, Gordon Morris) youthleaders@chesterumc.org



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

December 18, 2022—8:30 AM



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

WORSHIP MUSIC

Joy to the World
(Unspeakable Joy)
O Come, All Ye Faithful
How Great Is Our God
What A Glorious Night

SPECIAL MUSIC

Breath of Heaven
Charles & Cheryl Green
Craig and Jill Seal

Christmas Joy Medley
Jen Fournelle, flute

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 1:18-25
CEV

MESSAGE

“A Reluctant Grandpa”
Rev. Nathan Decker

Having trouble seeing the screen? Just ask an usher for a copy of today's large print song lyrics.

December 18, 2022

A Service of Worship and Praise

4th Sunday

11:00 AM

in Advent

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

Welcome, Announcements, and Greeting

Chimes

Prelude

Christmas Joy Medley

Jen Fournelle, flute

* Lighting of the Advent Wreath¹

Leader: Let there be peace on Earth!

People: Share with us words of peace.

Leader: Words of peace have been with us since the beginning.

People: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Leader: The Word of peace was shared with Mary long ago in Nazareth, in Galilee.

People: On this fourth Sunday of Advent, let us know the Word of Peace that has been shared through the ages.

* Call to Worship

Leader: We look for light but find darkness, for brightness, but walk in gloom. We grope like those who have no eyes; we stumble at noon as in the twilight.

SING: You are the light of the world; be light in our darkness, O Christ.

Leader: If I say, "Let only darkness cover me, and the light about me be night," even the darkness is not dark to you, the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you.

SING: You are the light of the world; be light in our darkness, O Christ.

Leader: Blessed be your name, O God, forever. You reveal deep and mysterious things; you are light and in you is no darkness. Our darkness is passing away and already the true light is shining.

SING: You are the light of the world; be light in our darkness, O Christ.

* Opening Hymn No. 238

Angels We Have Heard On High

Reception of New Member

Special Music

Come and Worship with Angels, From the Realms of Glory

Chancel Choir

Why We Give

Offertory

Breath of Heaven

Charles & Cheryl Green

Craig & Jill Seal

* Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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. 230

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Scripture

Matthew 1:18-25

CEV

Sermon

A Reluctant Grandpa

Rev. Nathan Decker

* Closing Hymn No. 219

What Child is This

* Benediction

* Choral Amen

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

The Flowers on the Altar are given to the glory of God by Tiffany Brabham (granddaughter of Doug & Eileen Helm) and Matt Martin who were united in holy matrimony yesterday here at Chester United Methodist Church.

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

Worship Footnotes:

¹ United Methodist Hymnal No. 205, Sung Response 2

CALENDAR
December 18-25, 2022

| | | | | |
|--------------|----------|----------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Today | 8:15 AM | Nursery until 12:00 PM | 1:30 PM | NO Prayer Shawl-Parlor |
| | 8:30 AM | Fresh Start-DFH | 6:30 PM | Disciple Life-Annex |
| | 9:30 AM | Sun Sch Gr K-2 -Rm 204 | Fri.: | |
| | | Sun Sch Gr 3-5-Rm 206 | Sat.: | 10:00 AM NO Strum & Smile |
| | | Adult SS-Various | | 5:00 PM Family Christmas Eve Service |
| | 9:55 AM | The Bridge-Sanc | | 10:00 PM Christmas Eve Service |
| | | Online Service | | |
| 11:00 AM | | Traditions Service-Sanc | | |
| | | Online Service | | |
| 12:00 PM | | MS/HS Jesus' Bday-Loft | | |
| 3:00 PM | | Blue Christmas-Sanc | | |
| 6:30 PM | | Advent Study-Online | | |
| Mon. 9:30 AM | | Advent Study-Rm 226 | | |
| Tues.: | | | | |
| Wed.: | 3:00 PM | NO Rest Stop | | |
| | 6:30 PM | Chancel Choir-Richmond Zoo | | |
| Thurs.: | 7:30 AM | Men's Group-Grant's Coffee | | |
| | 11:00 AM | Contemplative Prayer | | |

Next Sunday: December 25, 2022
 11:00 AM Nursery until 12:00 PM
 8:30 AM NO Fresh Start
 9:30 AM NO Children's Sun Sch Adult SS as decided
 9:55 AM NO The Bridge
 NO Online Service
 11:00 AM Traditions Service-Sanc Online Service

Online Giving: Scan the QR code with your smartphone to contribute online or visit www.chesterumc.org and click "Online Giving."



LOOKING AHEAD

| | |
|---------|---|
| Dec. 18 | Blue Christmas Service, 3:00 PM, Sanctuary |
| Dec. 19 | Deadline for Christmas Sharing Tree Gifts |
| Dec. 21 | Chancel Choir sings at Richmond Metro Zoo, 6:30 PM |
| Dec. 24 | Family Christmas Eve Service, 5:00 PM, Sanctuary (no nursery) Traditional Christmas Eve Service, 10:00 PM (no nursery) |
| Dec. 25 | 11:00 Service only (no Sunday school, no nursery) |
| Jan. 1 | 11:00 Service only (no Sunday School, no nursery) |

Leading Our Worship Next Sunday, December 25, 2022

| | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Greeters: | 8:30 | NO SERVICE |
| | 9:55 | NO Children's Sunday school; adult classes by consensus |
| | 11:00 | Linda Large, Will Schmidt |
| Ushers: | 8:30 | NO SERVICE |
| | 9:55 | NO SERVICE |
| | 11:00 | Gordon Jones*, Bob Kutz, Beth Stewart *Head Usher |
| Nursery: | 8:30, 9:55, 11:00 | Staff Members, Carla Adams, Jessica Hargraves |

*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 (Office 111). All visits are confidential.

Welcome into Christian Membership:

- ◆ *Patricia "Pat" Steinberg Ladlee* by transfer from Bethia United Methodist Church

CUMC Christmas Sharing Tree: CUMC has collaborated with Chesterfield Mental Health Support Services for more than 10 years to provide Christmas cheer to roughly 100 developmentally challenged adults who would not otherwise receive Christmas gifts. Visit <https://bit.ly/3VeXuGy> to select individuals to “adopt.” Please place your wrapped gifts under the tree by **Monday, December 19**. Label the gift(s) with the **ID #** from the tag(s) you choose.

Pledge Balances and Next Mile/Year-end Giving: Thank you to all who have met their 2022 financial pledges. Many of us are close. If your situation allows, please fulfill your pledge by Tuesday, December 27, and if you are blessed to be able to give a little more, we ask that you support our missions and ministries with a Next Mile or Year-end gift. Our Chester love shines in all our disciple-making activities.

150th Anniversary of Chester United Methodist Church--an Exciting Time in Our Church

The History Committee is pleased to announce that we will celebrate our 150th Anniversary beginning in January 2023! We’ve written a book that includes the history of Chester United Methodist Church (including Pastors, Sanctuaries, Missions, Choirs, and Fellowship from 1873 – 2023) and it is being printed to be available for purchase. The book is 314 pages with hundreds of scanned documents and photographs representing our 150 years. If you would like a copy, the cost is \$30 with your check made payable to CUMC (Memo: History) *To reserve your copy, register in the pew pad or contact Mary Musselwhite (softshL1@gmail.com, 804-330-0014).* If you want to order a book and have it shipped, please add \$10 and be sure to include the shipping address. The first shipment of the books has arrived and are ready for you to purchase.

Advent Study for Women: The Christmas stories are so familiar that we often miss the significance and new messages for us who seek the Christ child in 2022. We are looking at the Christmas stories in Matthew, Luke, and John. Facilitator: Marg Kutz (margkutz72@gmail.com). Final group sessions are:

- Sunday, December 18, 6:30 - 7:00 PM, <https://meet.google.com/seu-yjih-cub>. To join by phone, dial 1+ 929-277-6445 and enter this PIN: 126 096 896#
- Monday, December 19, 9:30-10:30 AM in Room 226 (The Upper Room)

KEEP IN PRAYER: family of Paul Duffy; Carey Lynn (Harley/Lorraine Young’s daughter-in-law’s brother); Susan & David Irvin (mother and stepfather of Melanie Irvin Mims); sue Hellen Hudson (mother of Melanie Irvin Mims); family of Jackie Carson (Luke Carson’s mother); Silvia McCarney; Tammy Outlaw; Paul & Diane Duffy; Diane Higgins; family of John Cook; family of Isabel Jones; Bert Watson [Terri] & Chase Watson (son & grandson of Ruby Bishop); Rachel York (granddaughter-in-law of John & Becky York); family of Edie Fails; family of Hazel Miles (Terri Moody’s grandmother); family of Danny Harrington (Victoria Harrington’s husband); Odette Burley (sister of Darlene Emerson & Linda D’Agostino); Steve Gilliatt; Alfred Gerard (friend Debbie Hubley); Elsie Smith (3-year-old great-niece of Charleene Holmes); Debbie Freed; Lynda Richardson; Wayne Haley; Joe Kiser; Kitty Lipscomb; Doug and Clara Gestwick.

Our Presence November December 11, 2022

| | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 8:30 AM Cantata Worship Service 178 | Mon., December 12 Cantata 364 |
| NO Bridge Service | Online 45 |
| 11:00 Cantata Worship Service 356 | Tues., December 13 Cantata 267 |
| Online/Call In 45 | Online 27 |
| Total Worship Attendance.....579 | TOTAL Cantata 703 |

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.

| <u>Leading Our Worship TODAY, December 18, 2022</u> | |
|--|--|
| Greeters: | 8:30 Andy & Eileen Steck |
| | 9:55 Ed & Marian Garrett |
| | 11:00 Linda Large, Marian Perkinson |
| Ushers: | 8:30 Gordon Jones*, Bill Comer, Ron Dombrowski *Head Usher |
| | 9:55 Jim Watkins*, JR Irvin |
| | 11:00 Gordon Jones*, Willie Orton, Tommy Petrey, Scott Pugh, Beth Stewart |
| Nursery: | 8:30, 9:55, 11:00 Staff Members, Carla Adams, Jessica Hargaves |

Thank you, Skip Buyalos for beautifying the Annex grounds. The Arbor over the sidewalk and rock bed with plants flanking the Arbor is most inviting. You and Pam always take great care to make our properties notable for our gorgeous grounds.

A Wonderful Stocking Stuffer: Chester UMC Rose Window Notecards. The Rose Window was dedicated in 1957. It was installed in the Atrium following the 2007 renovation, and now you can share our Rose Window with friends and relatives! CUMC Rose Window Notecards are sold weekdays in the Church Office. The cost is \$10 per package of 10 cards plus envelopes. Proceeds will benefit the Chester United Methodist Women's pledge to mission. Call Susan Petrey for details, 938-5396.

Journey Sunday School Class: Advent study, "Christmas Gifts That Don't Break," by James W. Moore.

Seekers Sunday School Class: Adam Hamilton Advent study, *The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem*. Resuming January 8—*If God is Love: Rediscovering Grace in an Ungracious World* by Philip Mulholland.

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

- Advent Study: *Prepare the Way for the Lord* by Adam Hamilton.

The Fresh Start Class meets every Sunday morning at 9:45 in room 205 (across the hall from the church library). Visitors and new members are always welcome. Call Susan Petrey, 938-5396, for more information.

NEW Women's Bible Study: Sundays, February 5 - March 12 (six weeks) from 6:30 – 8:00 PM in the Upper Room (226). We will be using the new Beth Moore study called, "Now That Faith Has Come," a study from Galatians. Sign Ups for the study will begin in the new year. Any questions can be directed to Marg Kutz (margkutz72@gmail.com) or Darlene Emerson (agentches@aol.com).

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW)

- The Jean Craig Fellowship will meet on Monday, January 9, 7:00 PM. Room 205. Call Susan Petrey for details.
- Salad Luncheon—All Women of the Church are invited to a luncheon meeting of the UMW Sunday, January 15, immediately following 11 o'clock worship. Our speaker will be Abigail Vo, a member of the board of directors of Manak Community Health Organization (MaCHO) in Sierra Leone. The Jean Craig Fellowship will host. Bring a cash donation for MaCHO and a salad or dessert to share.

Call Susan Petrey, 938-5396, to learn more about UMW, our two participating fellowships, and how you can become involved.

SUNDAY SMALL GROUPS

Children's Sunday School: 9:30 – 9:55 playground, 10:00 – 10:45 Bible/gospel lesson & activities. Grades K-2 meet in Room 204, and grades 3-5 in Room 206. POC: Chad Beck

Sunday Soles—Faith on the Move Walking Group ON HIATUS UNTIL JANUARY

3:30 PM, Annex lawn; POC: Sarah Bowers (massagebysarahb@gmail.com)

Fresh Start Sunday School Class

9:45 AM, Room 205; POC: Susan Petrey, 804-938-5396

Journey Sunday School Class

9:45 AM, Annex and Google Meet (<https://meet.google.com/ptm-pieh-vve>)

POCs: Carolyn Landis (landisfamily05@gmail.com); Eric Hougland (ehougland88@gmail.com)

Seekers Sunday School Class

9:40 AM, Room 226; POC: Barbara MacIntyre (telluwhatbarbara@aim.com)

We welcome visitors and new members.

Senior Singles Sunday School Class

9:45 AM, Parlor; POC: Cynthia Corley (cacorley@ctsi.net)

Adult Small Group Bible Study

9:45 AM, Room 221; Facilitated by Jeff Marlin (jeff.marlinabd@gmail.com)

Middle and High School Youth Sunday School

9:45 AM, Annex Loft

POC: Rev. Chad Beck (chadbeck@chesterumc.org)

Friendship Ministry Class

10:40 AM, Room 116, for adults who are cognitively challenged

POC: Mary Hayes (JLMinNaples@msn.com)

Bridge Builders (POC: Maureen Coker (mcoker2003@comcast.net))

2nd Sunday of the month, 12:15–1:30 PM, in Room 226

Dec. 11, Jan. 8, Feb. 12, Mar. 12, Apr 16 (due to Easter), and May 14.

Middle & High School Youth Meetings (POC: Jennifer Brame (youthleaders@chesterumc.org))

Scheduled Sundays, 4:00 PM, at the Annex Loft. ALL 6th through 12th graders are invited to join in study, missions, and fun!

Women's Online Advent Study (facilitated by Marg Kutz)

Final Session, Sun. Dec. 18, 6:30 - 7:00 PM, Virtual (link on front announcement page of this bulletin)

SMALL GROUPS

Women's Fellowship Luncheon will meet at 1:00 PM on the third Thursday of each month at a local restaurant. *The next gathering will be on Thursday, December 15, location TBA.* Email Joan Osborne (josbor61@gmail.com) if you would like to participate.

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

Village People Study, Socialize, & Service Group Schedule meets Mondays, **Nov. 21, Dec. 5, and Dec. 19, 2:00 PM**, Community Room at Chester Village Senior APTS (11701 Chester Village DR). POC: Bruce Johnson (bruce_bethjohnson@yahoo.com)

Joy Singers (for our retired folks): Tuesdays, 10:30 AM in the Music Suite. POC: Joshua Wortham.

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)

Women's Christian Book Club: Next meeting – Thursday, December 8. 1st Thursday each month, 6:30 PM at the Annex Loft. You have a month to read each book before we gather to discuss it. POC: Jennifer Brame (jrbrooksiee@gmail.com)

Estudio Bíblico de Mujeres: el primer y tercer miércoles de cada mes, a las 7:00 PM en el Centro Comunitario YMCA en Greenleigh. Para más información habla con Pastor Chad.

"Strum and Smile" Small Group: Saturday mornings at 10:00 AM. This is a group of guys and gals who play stringed instruments with no intention of performing. All levels of play are welcome! We will learn from one another, share in a reading of a Psalm, and grow together in Christ as we strum, pick, smile, and let loose in a variety of musical madness. POC: Pastor Nathan

Women's In-Person Advent Study (facilitated by Marg Kutz)

Final Session, Mon., Dec. 19, 9:30 -10:30 AM, Dec. 5, 12, 19, Room 226 (The Upper Room)



Wreath Dedications

In Loving Memory of

- † **Ron King** by Gail King
- † **Our parents, Harold Irving, and Helen & Bill Cole** by Betty Marie and Chris Irving
- † **Ronald Hargrave** by Janis Hargrave
- † **Bill Goodwyn** by his loving family
- † **Edwin & Betty Pospahala and Robert & Dorothy Scharmann** by Don and Pat Pospahala
- † **Gibson Belcher** by Nancy Belcher
- † **My sister, Ann Waynick,** by Nancy Carrouth

In Honor of

- † **Our loving grandchildren, Áedán, Abigail, Olivia, & Clara** by Steve and Penn Shultz

Memorial Donations

- † **Cecil Burley, father of Darlene Emerson & Linda D'Agostino,** by Candy Bray
- † **Jackie Carson, mother of Luke Carson,** by Candy Bray



Poinsettia Dedications



In Loving Memory of

- † **Coleman & Marie Dick, F.A. & Mary West, and David & Dorothy Pinkus** by David and Joan Dick
- † **Charles & Louise Young and Edwin Fisher** by Kim Young
- † **John & Doris Owen** by Gail King and family
- † **Sidney & Madaline King** by Gail King and family
- † **Mary Crowder** by Harold Crowder
- † **John & Joyce Harvey** by Mary Beth, Matt, Emily, and Caroline Johnson
- † **Carolyn R. Elliott** by Paul & DeAnna Elliott
- † **Mr. and Mrs. Dick C. Poole** by Rick Poole
- † **"Teddy" Nicholson** by Mari Helen, Thomas, & Caroline Nicholson
- † **James W. Battle** by Joyce M. Battle
- † **Blake & Wilma June Holmes** by Rod and Charleene Holmes
- † **James L. Huber** by Rod and Charleene Holmes
- † **Our son, John York, Jr.** by John and Becky York
- † **William & Kathleen Rhodes** by their children and grandchildren
- † **Gerry George** by Jim Rhodes
- † **Jackie & Preston Wilkinson** by Barbara and Kent Yandle
- † **Jane & Clyde Yandle** by Barbara and Kent Yandle
- † **My parents, John & Beth Scarborough, and my sister, Susan Scarborough,** by Holly Scarborough
- † **Ricky Swinson** by Debbie, Aubrey, and Meredith Swinson
- † **My mother, Geraldine Cahill,** by Linda & Emory Large
- † **Dutch Garrett** by Bob & Johnnie Davis

In Honor of

- † **The Jason Morgan Family** by Tim and Beth Stewart
- † **The Erik Johnston Family** by Tim and Beth Stewart
- † **Our family** by Roger and Betty Stone
- † **Our daughter, Danielle Irving,** by Betty Marie and Chris Irving
- † **Lisa, Riley, Paige, and Cole Irving** by Betty Marie and Chris Irving
- † **Paige & Cole** by Lisa and Riley Irving
- † **Our loving mother & grandmother, Barbara Goodwyn,** by her daughters and their families
- † **Oma & Pop** by Oscar and Adela
- † **Monte Nagy, Sr. (and in memory of Janet Nagy)** by Monte, Jr. and Claudia Nagy