

CALENDAR
January 1-8, 2023

Today 11:00 AM	Traditions Service-Sanc Online Service	Next Sunday:	January 8, 2023
Mon.	OFFICE CLOSED	8:15 AM	Nursery until 12:00 PM
Tues.: 3:30 PM	Rest Stop-Annex	8:30 AM	Fresh Start-DFH
Wed.: 10:00 AM	Visitation-226	9:30 AM	Sun Sch Gr K-2 -Rm 204
	7:00 PM Chancel Choir-Village Apts		Sun Sch Gr 3-5-Rm 206
Thurs.: 7:30 AM	Men's Group-Grant's Coffee	9:55 AM	Adult SS-Various
	11:00 AM Contemplative Prayer		The Bridge-Sanc
	1:30 PM Prayer Shawl-Parlor	11:00 AM	Online Service
	6:30 PM Disciple Life-Annex		Traditions Service-Sanc
Fri.:			Online Service
Sat.: 10:00 AM	Strum & Smile	12:00 PM	Confirmation Orientation-Loft
		12:15 PM	Bridge Builders-226
		4:00 PM	MS/HS Youth-Annex Loft

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



STAFF DIRECTORY

Ministers.....	All Disciples of the Congregation
Lead 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
Ministry Intern: Izaak Spiers	ispiers230@gmail.com
Nursery Specialist.....	Carla Adams
Nursery Specialist.....	Jessica Hargraves
MS & HS Youth Ministry (Jennifer Brame, Jeff Geisz, Gordon Morris)	youthleaders@chesterumc.org
Preschool Director: Jen Barnes.....	preschool@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*

January 1, 2023

A Service of Worship and Praise

Epiphany Sunday

11:00 AM

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

Welcome, Announcements, and Greeting

Chimes

Prelude

Christmas Celebration

Organist

* Call to Worship¹

Leader: Darkness is banished!

People: God's light has come to us!

Leader: The brightness of the Star leads us!

People: We come to celebrate God's abiding love!

Leader: Glory be to God in the Highest!

People: And on earth, peace forever. AMEN.

* Opening Hymn No. 220

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Opening Prayer²

Holy Baptism and Reception of New Member

Infant Baptism

Special Music

Sing Out the Savior's Birth

Chancel Choir

Why We Give

Offertory

God is With Us

Monte Nagy

* Doxology No. 94

**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. 254

We Three Kings

Scripture

Matthew 2:1-12

CEB

Sermon

Awed by the Incarnation

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.**

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

Worship Footnotes:

¹ <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/4511/worship-connection-epiphany-sunday>

² <https://www.theworkofthepeople.com/the-great-reversal>

Leading Our Worship TODAY, January 1, 2023

Greeters:	11:00	Beth Stewart, Stephanie Decker	
Ushers:	11:00	Gary Williams*, Will Herrmann, Larry Koon	*Head Usher
Nursery:	11:00	NO NURSERY	



Comissioning New Stephen Ministers: Our newest group of Stephen Ministers-in-training has only a few weeks left in this rigorous 50 hours of classes that began in September. It has been a challenging time for both the “students” and Stephen Leaders, but it’s also created a bond that is very much like a family. They have tackled tough subjects like Depression, Grief, and Suicide, as well as easier subjects to talk about, like Feelings, The Art of Listening, and Distinctively Christian Caring, just to name a few. They have laughed, cried and role played their way through these Wednesdays and a few Saturdays with enthusiasm and Grace. On January 15, they will be commissioned as Stephen Ministers for our church at the 11:00 service. We invite all past and present Stephen Ministers to lay hands upon these amazing individuals during the service. We look forward to our congregation welcoming them as they join our current group of Stephen Ministers who are faithfully serving now. Mark Sunday, January 15, 2023, on your calendar and meet these amazing members of CUMC!

Seekers Sunday School Class: Resuming January 8-*The Message of John's Letters* by David Jackman.

United Methodist Women (UMW): POC Susan Petrey, 938-5396

- 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.

Cookie Tins Needed: As you pack up your Christmas decorations, please wash and donate your cookie tins. The UMW Cookie sale earned \$927 from the sale of Homemade Christmas Cookies in 2022. Thanks to everyone who purchased cookies and especially to those who baked and donated cookies. Proceeds will go to support our gifts to mission local, national, and international, including, but not limited to, our CUMC food pantry, United Methodist Family Services, Branches, and the United Methodist Committee on Relief. Please place clean cookie tins in the designated bin in the Mission Closet. POC: Katey McCarney (402-0082)

Super Bowl Soup Luncheon—February 12 at noon. The entire congregation is invited join us for good food and fellowship. Proceeds will go to the United Methodist Women’s pledge to mission. The menu includes several heartwarming soups, corn muffins, desserts, and beverages. The cost at the door is \$6 per person. Call Susan Petrey, 938-5396, for more information.

KEEP IN PRAYER: Dee Fisher; family of Debi Sheffield (sister of Sherri Snelson); David Irvin (father of Melanie Mims); Sue Ellen Hudson (mother of Melanie Mims); family of Susan Irvin (stepmother of Melanie Irvin Mims); 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); family of John Cook; Bert Watson [Terri] & Chase Watson (son & grandson of Ruby Bishop); Rachel York (granddaughter-in-law of John & Becky York); Lynda Richardson; Wayne Haley; Joe Kiser; Kitty Lipscomb; Doug and Clara Gestwick.

Our Presence December 25, 2022

11:00 Traditions Service	85	5:00 PM Christmas Eve Service	195
Online/Call In	19	7:00 PM Christmas Eve Service	232
Total Worship Attendance.....	104	Online/Call In	64
		Total Christmas Eve Attendance.....	491

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.

Leading Our Worship Next Sunday, January 8, 2023

Greeters:	8:30	TBA
	9:55	TBA
	11:00	TBA
Ushers:	8:30	Gordon Jones*, Bill Comer *Head Usher
	9:55	Linda D’Agostino*, JR Irvin
	11:00	Gordon Morris*, Marshall Henry, Dean Hutchins, Bob Kutz, Emory Large
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!***

Today, We Celebrate the Holy Baptism and Membership into Christian Discipleship of
Emily Jolly Smith. Emily's husband is William Smith.

Today, We Celebrate the Holy Baptism of *Gabriel James Smith* who was born on July 24, 2022, to Emily and William Smith. The proud grandparents are David & Daphne Jolly (maternal) and Sarah & Dr. Charles W. Smith, III. Trey and Abigail Rose are honored to be Gabriel's godparents.

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).

Catch the Wave! Empowering the women of Sierra Leone empowers the whole community. The generous donations from Chester UMC are ready to ship along with donations from friends in Northern Virginia. By sending these supplies you are helping them start their own businesses. The shipping crate is full and ready to travel but needs a little help getting to its final destination. This crate of supplies ships for \$3,000 and every \$10 donation will help send it on its way! If you would like to make a donation for this trip, please go to manakhealth.com to make a donation. Many thanks for your interest in this project!

150th Anniversary of Chester United Methodist Church--an Exciting Time in Our Church: In preparation for our 150th Anniversary celebration this year, the History Committee has written a book that includes the history of Chester United Methodist Church (including Pastors, Sanctuaries, Missions, Choirs, and Fellowship from 1873 – 2023). The 314-page book has hundreds of scanned documents and photographs. *To reserve your copy, contact Mary Musselwhite* (softshL1@gmail.com, 804-330-0014). The cost is \$30 (payable to CUMC; Memo: History) If you want to order a book and have it shipped, please add \$10 and include the shipping address.

Dedication of Our Beautiful, Refurbished Stained Glass Windows: Sunday, January 22, during the 11:00 Traditions Service. This is the first 2023 event commemorating our church's 150th Anniversary.

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

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!

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, January 19, 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 (juliejerry@gmail.com)

Village People Study, Socialize, & Service Group Schedule meets on Mondays at 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 (lisaestanfield@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, January 5. 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