



February 5, 2023

9:55 AM

WORSHIP MUSIC

Boundless Love
Blessed Be the Name
Peace Like a River
I Saw the Light

SPECIAL MUSIC

How Great Thou Art
What Wondrous Love
Chris Johnston, violin

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 51
NIV

MESSAGE

“What’s So Amazing about Justifying Grace?”
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>
Feb. 12	What’s So Amazing about Sanctifying Grace?	Isaiah 51:1-6, The Voice
Feb. 19	Let’s Go Meet God!	Matthew 17:1-9, NRSV

* *Indicates that we will celebrate Holy Communion*

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



FRESH START SERVICE

February 5, 2023—8:30 AM



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

WORSHIP MUSIC

What A Friend
Glory to God Forever
Power of Your Love
You Are My King (Amazing Love)

SPECIAL MUSIC

How Great Thou Art
What Wondrous Love
Chris Johnston, violin

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 51
NIV

MESSAGE

“What’s So Amazing about Justifying Grace?”
Rev. Nathan Decker

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

February 5, 2023

A Service of Worship and Praise

5th Sunday

11:00 AM

after Epiphany

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

Welcome, Announcements, and Greeting

Chimes

Prelude

How Great Thou Art

Chris Johnston, violin

* Call to Worship¹

Leader: Generous God, we gather here before you, despite our sinfulness and isolation.

People: God, in your abundant mercy, hear our prayers for your forgiveness and grace.

Leader: Loving God, we gather here, very conscious of our failure to be faithful to you.

People: God, in your unfailing love, hear our prayers for renewal of our shared relationship.

Leader: Gracious God, we gather here before you to worship not only with thankful hearts—but also in honesty, and in full openness to your healing grace and loving mercy.

People: God, from the depths of your great compassion, hear our prayers of remorse and regret because we have failed to maintain our part in our holy and loving relationship. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and make us willing to always obey you. Amen.

* Unison Prayer of Confession and Word of Assurance

God of Forgiveness, we come before you today with apologies on our lips. We have fallen into sin and do not heed your Word. None in all of creation is worthy of earning your grace, yet we still pray for your forgiveness and renewal. Make in us pure spirits, O God, and envelop our minds with a desire for you. Fan the flames of our hearts so we rejoice in doing works for you, and bless our tongues so we speak your unending praises. Amen.

Church, rejoice! We serve a gracious and forgiving God. As God has forgiven those faithful ones that have come before us, so too are we forgiven by the holy name and deed of Christ.

* Opening Hymn No. 370

Victory in Jesus

Special Music

Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone

Chancel Choir

Why We Give
Offertory

What Wondrous Love

Chris Johnston, violin

* 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. 365

Grace Greater Than Our Sin

Scripture

Psalms 51

NIV

Children's Message

Sermon

What's So Amazing about Justifying Grace?

Rev. Nathan Decker

Holy Communion

* Closing Hymn No. 378

Amazing Grace

stanzas 1-4

* 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 Footnotes:

¹ http://www.thetimelesspsalms.net/w_resources/lent5b_2015.htm

CALENDAR
February 5-12, 2023

Today 8:15 AM Nursery until 12:00 PM
 8:30 AM Fresh Start-DFH
 9:30 AM Sun Sch Gr K-2 -Rm 204
 Sun Sch Gr 3-5-Rm 206
 Adult SS-Various
 9:55 AM The Bridge-Sanc
 Online Service
 11:00 AM Traditions Service-Sanc
 Online Service
 12:00 PM Confirmation #2-Annex Loft
 2:30 PM MS/HS Youth-Annex Loft
 5:30 PM UM VIM Mission Trip
 Info MTG-205
 6:30 PM Beth Moore Study-DFH
 Mon.: 7:00 PM Jean Craig F'ship-205
 Tues.: 10:30 AM Joy Singers
 11:00 AM Contemplative Prayer-Parlor
 3:00 PM Rest Stop-Annex
 Wed.: 10:00 AM BLOOD DRIVE-DFH
 7:00 PM Church Council-226
 Chancel Choir-Sanc
 Thurs.: 10:30 AM Bookman F'ship-DFH
 1:30 PM Prayer Shawl-Parlor
 6:30 PM Disciple Life-Annex

Fri.:
 Sat.: 9:30 AM Cantata Choir Wkshop-Sanc
 10:00 AM Strum & Smile

Next Sunday: February 12, 2023

8:15 AM Nursery until 12:00 PM
 8:30 AM Fresh Start-DFH
 9:30 AM Sun Sch Gr K-2 -Rm 204
 Sun Sch Gr 3-5-Rm 206
 Adult SS-Various
 9:55 AM The Bridge-Sanc
 Online Service
 11:00 AM Traditions Service-Sanc
 Online Service
 12:15 PM Bridge Builders-226
 Super Bowl Soup Lunch
 4:00 PM NO YOUTH
 5:30 PM UM VIM Mission Trip
 Organization MTG-205
 6:30 PM Beth Moore Study-DFH

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



Leading Our Worship Next Sunday, February 12, 2023

Greeters:	8:30 Laura Hougland	
	9:55 Ed & Marian Garrett	
	11:00 Marian Perkinson, Janis Hargrave	
Ushers:	8:30 Wendell Landis*, Dustin Munchel, Cub Scouts	*Head Usher
	9:55 Jim Watkins*, Diane Medina	
	11:00 Gordon Jones*, Dean Hutchins, Boy Scouts	
Nursery:	8:30, 9:55, 11:00 Staff Members, Carla Adams, Jessica Hargaves	

*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 will not be in Office 111 on Sunday mornings until mid-March.

Valentine's Cards for Veterans at McGuire Hospital and Sitter and Barfoot Veterans Care Center are due TODAY. Place your cards in Missions Closet. Please do not seal the envelope and only sign your first name. POC: Barbara MacIntyre ((telluwhatbarbara@aim.com))

NEW Women's Bible Study: Sundays, TODAY - 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. POC: Darlene Emerson (agentches@aol.com).

BIGGEST Choir Ever! Join us this Easter Season as we form the BIGGEST choir ever in the 150-year history of Chester UMC! Rehearsals kick off with a **workshop** on **Saturday, February 11**, from 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM. Then we meet weekly on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM. Singers of all skill levels are welcome, and we have rehearsal tracks to aid in learning the music. We'll present "A Journey to Hope" which tells the passion of Christ using spirituals, on Sunday, April 16, and Tuesday, April 18. POC: Joshua Wortham (Minister of Music)

Jean Craig Fellowship Meeting: Monday, February 6, 7:00 PM, Room 205. We will pack Valentine Gift Bags for the kids of UM Family Services. Call Susan Petrey for details.

SUPER BOWL SOUP LUNCHEON: Sunday, February 12, noon. Join us for good food and fellowship. Proceeds will go to the United Methodist Women's pledge to mission. The entire congregation is invited to join us immediately following 11 o'clock worship. The menu includes several heartwarming soups, fresh bread and corn muffins, desserts, and beverages. The cost at the door is \$6 per person or \$10 to take home a quart. Call Susan Petrey, 938-5396, for more info.

Ada Mae Bookman Fellowship MTG: Thursday, February 9, 10:30 AM, Fellowship Hall for a time of Christian fellowship. Call Martha Miles, 748-5476, for more information.

Family Game Night: Saturday, February 18, 6:00 PM in the fellowship hall. Join us (and bring a friend) for fun games, pizza, and fellowship! Please bring a game and a dessert to share. POC: Charlotte Brummette (CHARL208@yahoo.com / 804-833-1174)

KEEP IN PRAYER: Peggy Meehan (friend of Lisa Stanfield); family of Charlene “Sue” Houglan (mother of Eric Houglan); Beth Diane Manna; Beth Powner; family of Betty Davis (wife of former pastor Ott Davis (deceased)); Rebecca Kirkman Gorchell (friend of Paul Marretti); Dee Watkins; Jean Wallace; Jeanne Shelburne; Dorothy Nugent; Davis (the brother of Bob & Jonnie Davis’ daughter-in-law); family of Hazel Miller (mother of Sherri Snelson); family of Debi Sheffield (sister of Sherri Snelson); family of Paul Duffy; Bert Watson [Terri] & Chase Watson (son & grandson of Ruby Bishop); Rachel York (granddaughter-in-law of John & Becky York); Lynda Richardson; Jo Kiser; Kitty Lipscomb; Doug and Clara Gestwick.

Our Presence January 29, 2023

8:30 Fresh Start Service 103
9:55 The Bridge Service..... 71
11:00 Traditions Service 142
Online..... 42
Total Worship Attendance..... 358

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.

CUMC Blood Drive: Wednesday, February 8, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, fellowship hall. Please register at <https://www.redcross.org/give-blood.html> to donate your life-saving blood or platelets.

Personal Financial Wellness & Estate Planning: The Stewardship Committee is developing a series of low stress, faith-based financial and estate planning information sessions for our CUMC members, friends, and community. If you are a financial wellness planner, estate planner, tax advisor, etc. and are willing to use your talent(s) to inform others, please contact Bryon Wall at 678-642-2788 or bryon.wall@bpretail.com.

UMVIM Mission Trip to Southwest Virginia: March 12 – 18, 2023 to help those who were devastated by flooding last year. We hope that you will prayerfully consider joining the team. For those who went to Grundy, VA in fall 2022, we found it inspirational and uplifting to work with such wonderful people and to be welcomed so generously. We can use volunteers of all skill levels in carpentry, masonry, sheet rocking, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, cooking, health care, journaling, photography, cleaning, and those willing to learn. Our hope is to take a team of between 6 and 12. Applications and fees will be accepted for our congregation through January 31. Then, if there are still vacancies for the team, we will offer this opportunity to our community and beyond. **We will have an informational meeting on TODAY, February 5, at 5:30 PM in the fellowship hall.** Please join us for the meeting even if you aren't sure that you will be able to participate. Contact Lynn Crump with any questions (804-513-0260 / lynncrumppla@gmail.com). Thank you for your prayers and support for this special mission.

Men's Grill-n-Gaga: Sunday, March 12, 4:00 PM. All men are invited to join us on the Annex lawn for a time of grilling meats and veggies, playing Gaga, and enjoying fellowship. Our hope is to have a weekly game and grow together spiritually, or as Scott Pugh invites, "Come out and show 'em you're not a wimp!" Contact Scott Pugh or Gary Williams to join the game.

Afternoon Tea Returns - Table Hostesses Needed! This beloved event, hosted by the Chancel Choir, returns on Saturday, April 29, at 2:00 PM. We need YOU to host and decorate a table. If you are willing or interested in more info, contact Jill Seal (jilldean67@gmail.com; 804-980-1323). Tickets are \$25 and proceeds will support our music ministry. Watch for more info soon!

Vacation Bible School 2023: Monday, June 19, through Friday, June 23; 9:00 AM-12:30 PM. Save those dates! This year's theme is STAR WARS. If you are interested in helping, please sign up in Atrium or email Andy and Eileen Steck (andyei10twitchell@gmail.com).

Fresh Expressions are ways of joining unchurched people where they are already gathering and then making disciples. We can be creative or fun, or simply use our interests, passions, or gifts as we share the good news of Jesus. Would you like to try some Fresh Expressions, or are you curious and want more information? POC: Pastor Chad

Fiber Friends: 4th Sundays, 12:15-1:45 PM in **Room 205**. Do you enjoy knitting, crocheting, sewing, quilting, rug hooking, or any type of Fiber Art? Bring your home project with you to work on as we chat and snack together. It's a great way to meet new people while sharing our love of the Fiber Arts. All are welcome! Bring a bag lunch. Coffee and water will be provided. POC: Beth Powner (knit9grammy@gmail.com or 804.586.0735).

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; grades 3-5 in Room 206. POC: Chad Beck

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 Houglan (ehouglan88@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

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; 6th -12th grades are invited to join in study, missions, and fun!

Beth Moore Study (POCs: Darlene Emerson, agentches@aol.com)

Sundays, Feb. 5 to Mar. 12, 6:30 -8:30 PM in Room 226

Fiber Friends (POC: Beth Powner, knit9grammy@gmail.com. / (804) 586-0735)

Monthly 4th Sunday in Room 221, 12:15 PM, bring a bag lunch.

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)

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).

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

Contemplative Prayer Group: TUESDAYS, 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)

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

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, February 16 (place TBD).* Joan Osborne (josbor61@gmail.com) if you would like to participate.

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, February 2.* 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 (jrbrooksieeee@gmail.com)

Estudio Bíblico de Mujeres: el segundo y cuarto miércoles de cada mes, a las 7:00 a 8:30 PM en el edificio Annex de la iglesia. Para más información habla con el 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

Chester UMC Celebrates 150 Years: A book, written by Mary Musselwhite, entitled *A Community in Christ, Chester United Methodist Church, Our History including Pastors, Sanctuaries, Missions, Choirs, and Fellowship 1873 - 2023*, is available for pre-order. Cost is \$30 plus an additional \$15 if shipping is required. The book is 314 pages and includes scanned documents, direct quotes from members past and present, and many, scanned color photographs. POC: Mary Musselwhite (804-330-0014 /softL1@gmail.com)

TO RESERVE YOUR COPY, register in the pew pad; submit your \$30 check/cash payable to CUMC (MEMO:HISTORY); and drop your payment in the offering plate or mail/deliver it to CUMC(12132 Percival Street, Chester, VA 23831). We plan to order more books per demand.



Leading Our Worship TODAY, February 5, 2023

Greeters:	8:30 Maureen Coker	
	9:55 Donna Nunnery	
	11:00 Ruth Devore, Andy & Eileen Steck	
Ushers:	8:30 Gordon Jones*, Ron Dombrowski	*Head Usher
	9:55 Jim Watkins*, Beth Stewart	
	11:00 Gordon Jones*, James Bartlett, Will Herrmann, Steve & Joan Osborne	
Nursery:	8:30, 9:55, 11:00 Staff Members, Carla Adams, Jessica Hargaves	



1871 Central Church Building Moved to Chester

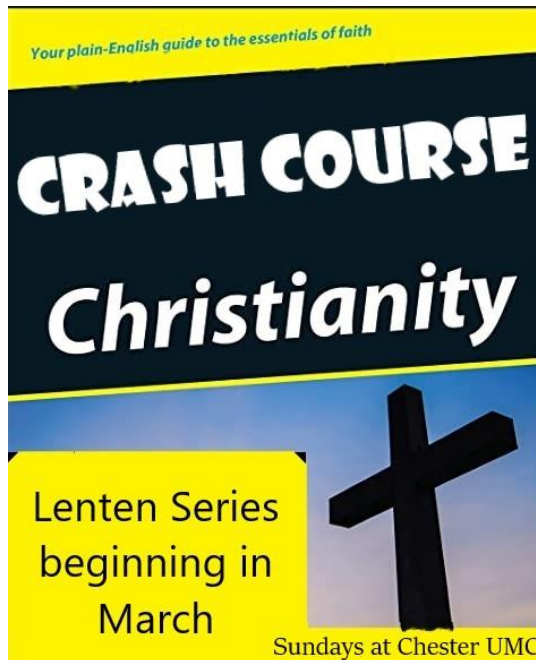
By 1871, the membership of the Central Church had diminished, and it was decided to tear it down and rebuild it on the tract of land owned by Miss Snead in Chester--replacing the primitive church building. It was still known as Central Church until 1873 when Miss Snead deeded the land for a new church in Chester known as **Central Church Methodist Episcopal South**.

STUDIES FOR LENT

Join Dr. Mike Browder's Lenten Study: Sundays, February 19 - April 9, 5:00-6:00 PM to look closely at the life of Jesus during the season of Lent. Using Dr. Browder's self-guided book, *The Life of Jesus for Lent* (\$10 on Amazon), you will read scripture daily beginning with the preface of the Gospels and ending with Christ's ascension into heaven. As you complete each book chapter, Dr. Browder will email you with further meditations. Weekly study time together will foster discussion and further exploration. Dr Browder is an accomplished scholar, author, historian, and a United Methodist pastor of more than forty years. Register in the pew pad for the *The Life of Jesus for Lent* study group or contact Terry (cumcsecretary@chesterumc.org; 804-748-6006.)

Seekers Sunday School Class: Sundays, February 26 – April 2, 9:40 AM, Room 226. In the study, *What the Bible Says about the Cross*, Magrey deVega faithfully describes the need for reconciliation between humankind and a holy God through Jesus' death on the cross. Come learn what Jesus' Crucifixion and resurrection do for you.

NEW Women's Bible Study: Sundays, TODAY - 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. *POC:* Darlene Emerson (agentches@aol.com).



Join the Fresh Start Sunday School Class in Study & Fellowship: 9:45 AM, Room 205

- **Continuing through February 26--God is Love: Rediscovering Grace in an Ungracious World** by Philip Mulholland.
- **Beginning March 5**—In *Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws*, pastor and bestselling author Adam Hamilton explores the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus as told in the Gospel of Luke. Through Luke's stories we find Jesus' care and compassion for all as he welcomes sinners and outcasts. As we study Luke and see Jesus' concern for those who were considered unimportant, we hear a hopeful and inspiring word for our lives today.

Seekers Sunday School Class: 9:40 AM, Room 226. Come join us for a month of classes and special leaders for the month of February!

- Feb. 5 Vann Stanfield will lead a study on Hebrews 13 (Living an Honorable Life)
- Feb. 12 Ed Garrett will lead a study on angels. Materials will be provided.
- Feb. 19 Diane Merryman will lead a study on Healing Oils. Based on the book, *Healing Oils of the Bible*, by David Steward, Ph.D, you will learn about the many plants and essential oils God designed for physical and emotional healing and how to use to use them in your own life.
- Feb. 26 Special 6-week study for Lent, *Savior: What the Bible Says about the Cross*, by Magrey R. deVega. Come learn what Jesus' Crucifixion and resurrection do for you.

Journey Sunday School Class: 9:45 AM at the Annex

- Join us online at <https://meet.google.com/ptm-pieh-vve>
- Studying, "What We Need Is Here" by Roger Owens who shows us that in Jesus, God has already given us all we need to live and flourish.

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