



February 26, 2023  
9:55 AM

**WORSHIP MUSIC**

Unclouded Day  
I'm Gonna Leave Here Shoutin'  
How Great Is Our God  
Bigger Than Any Mountain

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

You'll Be In My Heart  
*Megan Johnston*

**SCRIPTURE**

Matthew 25:40  
NRSV

**MESSAGE**

*"Not Just a Child, but Generations"*  
Julie Atlas

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

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**DATE**

**SERMON TITLE**

**SCRIPTURE**

Mar. 6	A Sacrifice God Didn't Ask You to Make*	Leviticus 9:7, 22-24, 10:1-3
Mar. 12	Crash Course Christianity: Reading the Bible	Deuteronomy 6:4-9
Mar. 19	Crash Course Christianity: Serving Others	James 2:14-26

\* *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](http://www.chesterumc.org) \* A Stephen Ministry Congregation



### **FRESH START SERVICE**

February 26, 2023—8:30 AM



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

#### **WORSHIP MUSIC**

Awesome is the Lord Most High

Lord, I Need You

How Great Is Our God

I Will Follow

#### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

You'll Be In My Heart

*Megan Johnston*

#### **SCRIPTURE**

Matthew 25:40

*NRSV*

#### **MESSAGE**

*"Not Just a Child, but Generations"*

Julie Atlas

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

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February 26, 2023

A Service of Worship and Praise  
11:00 AM

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in  
Lent

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

Welcome, Announcements, and Greeting

Chimes

Prelude

*Jesus Paid it All* with  
*O Sacred Head Now Wounded*

Sage Wright, violin

\* Call to Worship<sup>1</sup>

Leader: Rejoice, people of God: this is our Sabbath day.

**People: Rejoice, friends in Christ: this is our time for worship.**

Leader: God ordained the Sabbath, rest, and restoration.

**People: God is worthy of worship, our Creator, Healer, and Inspiration.**

Leader: So then, let us worship God.

\* Opening Hymn No. 133      *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

\* Affirmation of Faith No. 887

\* Gloria Patri No. 70

**Glory be to the father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

Ways to Get Involved

Children's Home Society

Special Music

*You'll Be In My Heart*

Megan Johnston

Why Foster Care is Important

Geneva

Offertory

*Be Thou My Vision*

Chancel Choir  
Sage Wright, 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. 394

*Something Beautiful*

Children's Message

Sermon

*Not Just a Child, but Generations*

Julie Atlas

\* Closing Hymn No. 593

*Here I Am, Lord*

\* Benediction

\* Choral Amen

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\* *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:**

<sup>1</sup> <https://holdfastowhatisgood.com/liturgy/call-to-worship/>

**CALENDAR**  
*February 26 – March 5, 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	6:30 PM	Disciple Life-Annex
		Sun Sch Gr 3-5-Rm 206		Book Club-Annex
		Adult SS-Various		
	9:55 AM	The Bridge-Sanc	Fri.:	
		Online Service	Sat.:	10:00 AM Strum & Smile
11:00 AM		Traditions Service-Sanc		
		Online Service		
12:15 PM		Fiber Friends-205		
2:00 PM		VBS Team MTG-Annex		
		Family Ministry Team.Online		
2:30 PM		NO MS/HS YOUTH		
5:00 PM		Browder Lent Study-205		
5:30 PM		UMVIM Organizational		
		MTG-116		
	6:30 PM	Beth Moore Study-DFH		
Mon.:	3:00 PM	Staff Meeting		
Tues.:	10:30 AM	Joy Singers-Music Suite		
	11:00 AM	Contemplative Prayer-Parlor		
	3:00 PM	Rest Stop-Annex		
Wed.:	6:00 PM	SPRC		
	7:00 PM	Chancel Choir-Sanc		
Thurs.:	12:15 PM	Dr.Seuss Party-DFH		
	1:30 PM	Prayer Shawl-Parlor		

**Next Sunday: March 5, 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  
 12:00 PM Confirmation #4-Annex  
 1:00 PM THDS Key Club Bd-116  
 2:30 PM MS/HS YOUTH-Annex  
 5:00 PM Browder Lent Study-205  
 UMVIM Load Up  
 6:30 PM Beth Moore Study-DFH

**Online Giving:** Scan the QR code with your smartphone to contribute online or visit [www.chesterumc.org](http://www.chesterumc.org) and click “Online Giving.”



**Vacation Bible School 2023:** Monday, June 19, through Friday, June 23; 9:00 AM-12:30 PM.

<b><u>Leading Our Worship Next Sunday, March 5, 2023</u></b>	
<b>Greeters:</b>	<b>8:30</b> Bill & Karen Comer <b>9:55</b> Donna Nunery <b>11:00</b> TBA
<b>Ushers:</b>	<b>8:30</b> Gordon Jones*, Ron Dombrowski *Head Usher <b>9:55</b> Linda D’Agostino*, JR Irvin <b>11:00</b> Beth Stewart*, Dean Hutchins, Bob Kutz, Geoff LeSueur, Vann Stanfield
<b>Nursery:</b>	<b>8:30, 9:55, 11:00</b> 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** will not be in Office 111 on Sunday mornings until mid-March.

**Plant/Seed Swap:** Sunday, March 5, 12:15 PM in the fellowship hall. Do you have more okra or pea seeds than you know what to do with? Did your aloe recently sprout a bunch of babies? Bring your extras and meet other green thumbs and want-to-be green thumbs, swap seeds, share plants, and maybe talk a little dirt. POC: Katey McCarney (804-402-0084)

**Men's Grill-n-Gaga:** Sunday, March 19 (DATE CHANGE), 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!" To join the game, register in the pew pad or contact Scott Pugh ([noah3721@aol.com](mailto:noah3721@aol.com)) or Gary Williams ([garykaywilliams@gmail.com](mailto:garykaywilliams@gmail.com)).

**Altar Flowers for the Sanctuary:** To donate Altar flowers, *please sign up in the pew pad* or on the flower chart outside the Church Office and complete an Altar Flower Form. (Dates are available beginning April 16. Some dates are excluded for special services.) Also, make arrangements with the florist of your choice, including delivery to the church and payment to the florist. (The suggested price is \$55-\$65.) Special pricing and free delivery to the church have been arranged with River's Bend and Petals & Bows Florists. Thank you for helping to beautify the Altar for worship.

**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, March 16, at River's Bend Grill (13283 Rivers Bend Blvd). Contact Joan Osborne ([josbor61@gmail.com](mailto:josbor61@gmail.com)) if you would like to participate.

**The 150th Year History Book** will be re-ordered in the next few weeks. For all who are interested, please put your check in the amount of \$30 made payable to CUMC (Memo: History) in the offering plate or in the Historian's box (middle top row) in the hall adjoining the Fellowship Hall. If you have only signed-up but not paid, **please pay before March 6. The CUT-OFF FOR ORDERING IS MARCH 6. Any books not paid for by March 6 will revert to the actual full price of \$44 per book.** Shipping charges are an additional \$15. So...don't delay...order your History Book today! POC: Mary Musselwhite - 804-330-0014. **TO RESERVE YOUR COPY**, register in the pew pad.



**1973 Chester United Methodist Church**

**BIGGEST Choir Ever!** Join us this Easter Season as we form the BIGGEST choir ever in the 150-year history of Chester UMC! Rehearsals are held 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)

### **What is "Second Mile" Giving?**

In Mathew 5:41, Jesus suggests that when we are asked to go one mile, we go a second mile. Applying this to how we give, our first mile of giving is our tithes and offerings and our "second mile" is when we give and designate how the gift is to be used. First mile funds are used for local operating expenses and the support of ministries at local, conference, and world levels. An example of second mile giving is when we designate on a check or envelope that a gift is for our HVAC project or we give during a special offering for the HVAC project. Other examples of second mile giving are gifts designated for a specific mission trip, UMCOR, VBS, our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, etc. Another **key distinction** between first mile and second mile gifts is that second mile gifts **are not counted** as part of our tithes or annual pledges. As you are blessed, we encourage you to bless others through second mile gifts while keeping in mind, designated (second mile) gifts are gifts of generosity above and beyond your tithes and pledges.

### **When "Pull Yourself Together" Doesn't Work**

You've heard it time and time again: "Pull yourself together. . . . Cheer up. . . . Tough it out. . . . It's not that bad." Perhaps people have said it to you. Or perhaps you keep saying it to yourself. But it hasn't helped. You're still hurting. Things are coming apart. Here's the good news: You don't have to go through your struggles alone. Help is available. Our Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers who will walk with you, listen to you, and provide confidential, one-to-one care as you search through the pieces and find what is truly in your heart. To learn more about what Stephen Ministry can do for you, talk to our Referral Coordinator, Vince D'Agostino at 804-461-8529. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to care for you.



**KEEP IN PRAYER:** Andrew Dyson; Malcom & Dollie Stone; family of Craig Buxton; family of Francis Clark (mother of Dale); Ginny Virag; family of Grace Verghese; Peggy Meehan (friend of Lisa Stanfield); family of Charlene “Sue” Houglan (mother of Eric Houglan); Beth Diane Mannetta; Beth Powner; family of Betty Davis (wife of former pastor Ott Davis (deceased)); Rebecca Kirkman Gorhellr (friend of Paul Marretti); Dee Watkins; Jean Wallace; Jeanne Shelburne; Dorothy Nugent; Davis (the brother of Bob & Jonnie Davis’ daughter-in-law); 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 February 19, 2023**

8:30 Fresh Start Service ..... 82  
 9:55 The Bridge Service ..... 87  
 11:00 Traditions Service ..... 150  
 Online..... 37  
**Total Worship Attendance ..... 356**

**CHESTER UMC ONLINE RESOURCES**

- **Website:** [www.chesterumc.org](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:rmachachi@aol.com)).
- **The Chimes**, bi-monthly newsletter: Submit items to [communication@chesterumc.org](mailto:communication@chesterumc.org) on 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November.

**Leading Our Worship TODAY, February 26, 2023**

<b>Greeters:</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Andy & Eileen Steck	
	<b>9:55</b>	Donna Nunery	
	<b>11:00</b>	Hunter Beazley & Martha Miles	
<b>Ushers:</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Wendell Landis*, Bill Comer	*Head Usher
	<b>9:55</b>	Linda D’Agostino*, Jim Watkins	
	<b>11:00</b>	Beth Stewart*, Gordon Jones, Bob Kutz, Emory Large, Don Schmidt	
<b>Nursery:</b>	<b>8:30, 9:55, 11:00</b>	Staff Members, Carla Adams, Jessica Hargraves	

### **1973 Chester United Methodist Church**

"While still worshipping in the 1927 church, many in the congregation were renewed in spirit during the first Lay Witness Mission and the fast-growing congregation benefited. 'How Great Thou Art' became our theme hymn. Folding chairs were placed in the aisles to seat the overflowing attendance. Others were seated downstairs where loudspeakers brought the sounds, but not the sights, of the service. Finally in 1972, the new Church, complete with a carillon (given by the Hatcher sisters), was a marvelous reality. Charles Bartholomew was Pastor." *Eleanore Roberts, Church Secretary for 27 years*

Reverend Charles Bartholomew led the congregation processing from the old to the new sanctuary as all sang "How Great Thou Art."

"The sanctuary [Colonial building] is entered through the oval shaped portico into the narthex, which has a slate floor. On the right is a coat room and, on the left, a bride's room. Inside the sanctuary with plaster walls and acoustical ceiling, the walk down the center aisle leads to the chancel area which has the altar in the center and the choir on each side. It has a seating capacity of approximately 500 with an unfinished balcony which will allow for future expansion of an additional 175 seats.

The interior also follows the Colonial theme in its pews, chancel furnishings and windows. All of the sashes are glazed with a Blenko mouth blown glass [from Italy]. The pulpit is elevated on a pedestal and set forward of the choir rail, giving the pastor a commanding view of his congregation. The basic structure is 108 feet by 56 feet, rectangular, one-story. There is a total of 8,340 square feet and 267,000 cubic feet. It is wall bearing with steel roof trusses and slab on grade.

The exterior of the church is of handmade, sand finished brick with the typical Williamsburg muntins in wood sash and the backband trim on the window and door openings. The copper covered spire towers to 114 feet and can be seen within a radius of approximately one quarter of a mile of the surrounding area. The spire contains a carillon, which chimes the hour and plays selected pieces, as well as a bell which came from the [Winfree Street] church constructed in 1891. This is often rung by hand by means of a pull rope in the narthex." *Source: Virginia Record, November 1973, pp. 29 and 99*

The rose window, given by Ruth Moore, that was displayed in the front of the sanctuary above the choir loft in the 1927 sanctuary, was moved and now resides in the atrium where guests and members are welcomed. The 1927 sanctuary was divided into classrooms and remains an integral part of our ministry. The new building was dedicated August 12, 1973.

## **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](mailto:landisfamily05@gmail.com)); Eric Houglan ([ehouglan88@gmail.com](mailto:ehouglan88@gmail.com))

### **Seekers Sunday School Class**

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

We welcome visitors and new members.

### **Senior Singles Sunday School Class**

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

### **Adult Small Group Bible Study**

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

### **Middle and High School Youth Sunday School**

9:45 AM, Annex Loft

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

### **Friendship Ministry Class**

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

POC: Mary Hayes ([JLMinNaples@msn.com](mailto:JLMinNaples@msn.com))

### **Bridge Builders** (POC: Maureen Coker ([mcoker2003@comcast.net](mailto:mcoker2003@comcast.net)))

2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:youthleaders@chesterumc.org)))

Scheduled Sundays, 4:00 PM, at the Annex Loft; 6<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grades are invited to join in study, missions, and fun!

### **Beth Moore Study** (POC: Darlene Emerson, [agentches@aol.com](mailto:agentches@aol.com))

Sundays, Feb. 5 to Mar. 12, 6:30 -8:30 PM in Davis Fellowship Hall.

### **Fiber Friends** (POC: Beth Powner, [knit9grammy@gmail.com](mailto:knit9grammy@gmail.com). / (804) 586-0735)

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

**Ladies of Faith:** Our fellowship has just wrapped up its successful 2022 Whaley Pecan sales. We, along with some very enthusiastic buyers, sold over 600 pounds of pecans. As we have said in the past, our rather small profits are donated to our church. Since the last report, we donated \$1,000 to jumpstart the campaign to upgrade our Church's sound/video system and, in April, gave \$500 to the History Committee for the 150th Anniversary Celebration. Now, another urgent need has arisen i.e., replacement of our Sanctuary's HVAC system, and we donated \$1,000 toward that much-needed project. We want to thank you for your support in our efforts to help our church, albeit in a small way. We look forward to seeing you perhaps in the fall when we launch our next Whaley Pecan Sale. Sincerely, Betty Labin / Lorraine Young

**All Kinds of People** TWO OPPORTUNITIES to hop in the church van to see "All Kinds of People" at Henrico Theater. Friends and guests are welcome. Contact Joshua Wortham if you wish to ride the van ([music@chesterumc.org](mailto:music@chesterumc.org), 804-748-6006)

**Friday, March 3** - van departs at 5:45 PM, show at 7 PM

**Sunday, March 5** - van departs at 1:45 PM, show at 3 PM

*(There is also a performance on Saturday, March 4 @ 7 PM - but I do not have a driver lined up that evening.)*

This 50-minute show features our own Bobby Henderson, plus Kyle Billeter (she sang a solo in the Christmas cantata), plus Joshua Wortham on keys, and Amy Perdue is the director.

**TICKETS are \$10** (which includes general admission seat and gas money for the van.) Check payable to Joshua Wortham.

*-If you go on your own, tickets are only \$5 and can be purchased at the door or online (<https://bit.ly/3XVbyFA>).*

### **ABOUT THE SHOW**

Throughout a career that spanned four decades, Oscar Hammerstein II used the theatre to promote human understanding. He continually tackled themes of racism and cultural bias, changing the very course of musical theatre in the process. All Kinds of People is a musical revue (running time: 50 minutes) that addresses the dangers of prejudice, the importance of tolerance and the empowerment of self-esteem. These issues are considered through such songs as "Ol' Man River" from Hammerstein's 1927 masterpiece Show Boat, "You've Got To Be Carefully Taught" from his Pulitzer Prize winning South Pacific, and many others from such beloved musicals as The King and I, Flower Drum Song, The Sound of Music and Carousel. Oscar Hammerstein believed wholeheartedly in celebrating our differences instead of fearing them, as simply and eloquently expressed in his musical Pipe Dream - "It takes all kinds of people to make up a world."

**Ladies' Afternoon Tea Returns:** Saturday, April 29, 2:00-4:00 PM. ***WE STILL NEED 5 MORE HOSTS!*** This beloved event, a step back into yesterday, is hosted by the Chancel Choir. We need YOU to host and decorate a table. *If you are willing or interested in more info, please register in the pew pad or contact Jill Seal ([jilldean67@gmail.com](mailto:jilldean67@gmail.com); 804-980-1323).* Tickets are \$25 and proceeds will support our Music Ministry. Watch for more info soon!

**Singer Georgia Rogers Farmer** presents “Dream A Little Dream,” a cabaret, on Friday, March 10, and Saturday, March 11, at 8:00 PM at Swift Creek Mill Theater. She will be joined by Joshua Wortham on keys and Jack Price on trumpet. Tickets are \$49 and include appetizers. A cash bar is available. <https://www.swiftcreekmill.com/cabaret>

**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 the Atrium or email Andy and Eileen Steck ([andyei10twitchell@gmail.com](mailto:andyei10twitchell@gmail.com)).

**UMVIM Mission Trip to Southwest Virginia: March 12 – 18, 2023** to help those who were devastated by flooding last year. ***MEETING: TODAY, Sunday, February 26, at 5:30 PM in Room 116.*** We hope that you will prayerfully consider joining the team. 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. POC: Lynn Crump with any questions (804-513-0260 / [lynncrumppla@gmail.com](mailto:lynncrumppla@gmail.com)). Thank you for your prayers and support for this special mission.

**UMCOR KITS for CONFERENCE:** 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 hygiene kits to send to Sager Brown to have on hand when disaster strikes. Due to tornadoes and flooding in the Southeast and war in Eastern Europe, **there is an urgent need to restock their inventory of hygiene kits. Therefore, our goal for this year's June 15-17 Virginia United Methodist Annual Conference in Roanoke is 100 hygiene kits. 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 1 and return the assigned items to the collection box in the Missions Closet by 12 noon on Sunday, April 1. POC: Susan Petrey, 938-5396

**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

## SMALL GROUPS

**Women's Bible Study:** February 5 - March 12 (six weeks) from 6:30 – 8:00 PM in the fellowship hall.; Beth Moore study called, “Now That Faith Has Come,” a study from Galatians. POC: Darlene Emerson ([agentches@aol.com](mailto:agentches@aol.com)).

**Faith Keepers Women's Prayer Group:** Mondays, 9:00 AM at Grants Coffee Co. (11884 Chester Village DR). POC: Julie Ferry ([juliejerry@gmail.com](mailto: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 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](mailto: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](mailto: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, March 16 (River's Bend Grill).* POC: Joan Osborne ([josbor61@gmail.com](mailto:josbor61@gmail.com)) if you would like to participate.

**Prayer Shawl Group:** Thursdays, 1:30 PM, in the Church Parlor or you can work on your project at home. All are invited to join us! We can provide yarn and will happily teach you how to knit or crochet if you don't already know. POCs: Beverly Trevillian (804-337-2367) & June Gilliam (804-748-6668)

**Women's Christian Book Club:** *Next meeting – Thursday, March 2.* 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:jrbrooksiee@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

## STUDIES FOR LENT

**Join Dr. Mike Browder's Lenten Study:** Sundays, February 19 - April 9, 5:00-6:00 PM, Room 205. We will 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, available in the office or 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](mailto:cumcsecretary@chesterumc.org))

**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:** February 5 - March 12 (six weeks) from 6:30 – 8:00 PM in the fellowship hall. We will be using the new Beth Moore study called, "Now That Faith Has Come," a study from Galatians (cost \$16). POC: Darlene Emerson ([agentches@aol.com](mailto:agentches@aol.com)).

**LENTON SERMON SERIES** begins March 5, *Crash Course Christianity, Your plain English guide to the essentials of faith.*

### **LENTON / EASTER SERVICES:**

- **Maundy Thursday/Good Friday Service:** Thursday, April 6, 6:30 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.
- **Easter Services:** Sunday, April 9
  - + Sunrise Service, TIME TBA, Annex lawn  
Pancake Breakfast in fellowship hall following the service.
  - + Fresh Start Contemporary Service (8:30 AM) in Sanctuary
  - + The Bridge Southern Gospel Service (9:50 AM) in Sanctuary
  - + Traditions Traditional Service (11:00 AM) in Sanctuary

**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. 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](mailto:ehougland88@gmail.com)), Carolyn Landis ([landisfamily05@gmail.com](mailto:landisfamily05@gmail.com))

