

APRIL/MAY 2023

# THE CHIMES

Official Newsletter of Chester United Methodist Church—www.chesterumc.org

## *Holy Week Worship*

### Maundy Thursday/Good Friday

6:30 PM -Thursday, April 6

RSVP Required

### Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 9

6:00 AM Sunrise Service - Annex Lawn

Pancake Breakfast follows in Fellowship Hall

8:30 AM - Fresh Start - Sanctuary

9:50 AM - The Bridge - Sanctuary

11:00 AM - Traditions - Sanctuary



A Community in Christ  
Chester United Methodist Church

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

#### **Contemporary Worship**

Davis Fellowship Hall

8:30 AM

#### **Southern Gospel Worship**

Sanctuary

9:55 AM

#### **Traditional Worship**

Sanctuary

11:00 AM

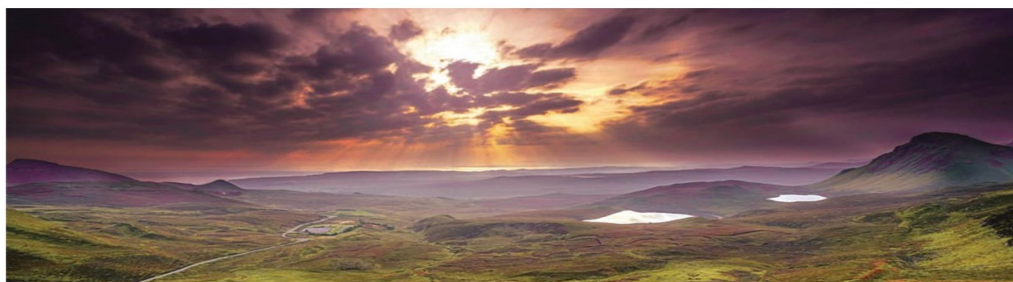
#### **Worship By Phone**

804-768-9594

*Anytime*

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## **FREE CONCERT: A Journey to Hope**

Sunday, April 16, 8:30 and 11 AM

Tuesday, April 18, 7:00 PM

**Chester United Methodist Church**

12132 Percival Street, Chester, VA 23831 \* 804.748.6006 \* www.chesterumc.org

# EASTER EGGS AND FINDING JESUS

by Pastor Nathan Decker



"A great accomplishment shouldn't be the end of the road, just the starting point for the next leap forward." - **Harvey Mackay**

What's the big deal about Easter? Chocolate bunnies, Cadbury delights, and egg hunts are all of my childhood memories. Recently, I've learned there is another meaning for the term *Easter Eggs*. In the Marvel Comic Movies, from Captain America and the Avengers to Ant Man and the Guardians of the Galaxy, the movie 'hides' a clip at the end of the movie or within the credits that gives you a sneak peek at the next installment in the Marvel Movies. Other times, they'll add things to the movie that only those who have seen the other sixteen movies will understand. In the Movie Industry, they have come to call these *Easter Eggs*. My two boys and I love them. At the movie theatre, we sit impatiently on the edge of our seats through the entire credits just to *find* one of these Eggs. When we rent a movie, we quickly hit fast forward to scroll through all the names of the people involved in making the movie so that we can *catch a glimpse* of the future movie that will satisfy our need for entertainment and story.

*Finding... Catching a glimpse... Being surprised...*

For disciples of Jesus Christ, Easter morning is more like the Easter Eggs in the movies than the ones we search for on our front lawn. The early disciples go to the tomb on Easter morning to grieve the loss of a savior, a rabbi, and their friend. Instead of grief at the grave, they discover the surprise that they are now involved in a "where's Jesus" moment (yes, think "where's Waldo")... Jesus is supposed to be dead. The movement of God is supposed to be dead. They were going to put flowers down at the grave and then go back to fishing. This is how life and death work – no surprises. When they *find* Jesus they *catch a glimpse* of resurrection, eternal life, and the Kingdom of God. They are surprised.

Faith is intended to be a surprise. Following Christ leads to empty tombs and Easter Eggs like those in the movies. Finding Jesus means catching a glimpse of the exciting future God has in store for us as the Church. Experts and futurists are moaning and groaning about the death of the Church in the US. The movement of God on these shores seems to be dead. We seem to be in grief. However, if we are going to be disciples of Jesus, we should be looking for a surprise.

For us as disciples of Jesus Christ, Easter is not a celebration of a past event, but instead is all about the future. Our faith is not a faith of the past. Easter is not a visit to the grave but an encounter with God's resurrection power. Easter is the single most important day/season in the church. For Seven Sundays we intentionally are reminded about the surprise that Jesus didn't stay dead. We *find* Christ not in the tomb, but in the world – still working for the Kingdom to come fully here. We *catch a glimpse* at what disciples, the church, and God are going to be about – resurrection, eternal life, Kingdom-time! God's not done yet. God has conquered the grave!

Unlike my boys and me, we don't need to fast-forward to these moments. Our life always seems to be in fast-forward mode. We need to slow down. God calls us to slow down. Mary, stop weeping at the grave. The couple on the road to Emmaus, stop debating what you have heard. Thomas, doubt no more. Peter, realize that you've been forgiven and charged with leading the church. Disciple, do not be afraid. Jesus is with us. Christ is risen! God is giving us a sneak peek at what's in store for us in the future. That's the big deal about Easter.

*"I'm sure about this: the one who started a good work in you will stay with you to complete the job by the day of Christ Jesus."* - **Philippians 1:6 CEB**

# MAUNDY THURSDAY/GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP

Thursday, April 6, 2023

Greetings Beloved,  
Come join your Chester UMC family as we step back in time to worship during the first Holy Week with snacks and scripture. Enjoy this time of getting to live in the Gospel through the Last Supper, into the Garden of Gethsemane, and on to the most important Friday in history. The service will begin in the Fellowship Hall and then move into the Sanctuary, lasting approximately 1½ hours. Unlike the Grace of God, space is LIMITED! RSVP by contacting the Church Office (804-748-6006/ [cumcsecretary@chesterumc.org](mailto:cumcsecretary@chesterumc.org)).  
Izaak Spiers



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## MUSIC NOTES

The Chancel Choir is sounding fabulous and is SO excited to present "**A Journey to Hope.**" This beautiful collection uses spirituals to tell the story of Christ's life, death, and resurrection. This year, we're singing it AFTER Easter, so please help spread the word about this schedule change. It will be presented on **Sunday, April 16, at 8:30 and 11:00 AM**, and again on **Tuesday, April 18, at 7:00 PM** in the Sanctuary. The concert is free, but donations are welcome!

The **Afternoon Tea** makes a triumphant return on Saturday, April 29. This beloved fundraiser event helps support the Chancel Choir Tour and other music projects.

Looking for some other great events to attend this Spring? Come see "**Little Shop of Horrors**" at the Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen, May 5-21.

**Tickets are \$15 each** (check payable to Joshua or exact change, please). *This includes show ticket, gas money for the van, and paying for the driver's ticket.*

Please reply to Joshua Wortham (804-748-6006/[music@chesterumc.org](mailto:music@chesterumc.org)) if you wish to get on board for one of the following dates.

**Friday, May 5**, load up at 6:45 PM, show at 8, home around 11ish  
Gordon Morris driving (**VAN IS FULL**)

**Sunday, May 14**, load up at 1:45 PM, show at 3, home around 6ish  
Susan Petrey driving

**Sunday, May 21**, load up at 1:45 PM, show at 3, home around 6ish  
Keith Boyd driving

Friends and family are welcome of course! Spread the word!

Alternatively, if you want to do a different date, and/or drive yourself, purchase tickets here : <https://cacga.na.ticketsearch.com/sales/salesevent/13711>.

**Georgia Rogers Farmer** presents her next cabaret (with Joshua Wortham at the piano) Thursday, May 25-Saturday, May 27 at Richmond Triangle Players Theater. For tickets visit: <https://rtriangle.my.salesforce-sites.com/ticket#/events/a0S3p00001LNGDAEA5>



“Sing”-cerely,  
Joshua Wortham

# STEPHEN MINISTRY MUSINGS...

## GRIEF

I had my own notion of grief.  
I thought it was the sad time  
That followed the death of  
Someone you love.  
And you had to push through it  
To get to the other side.  
But I'm learning there is no other side.  
There is no pushing through.  
But rather,  
There is absorption.  
Adjustment.  
Acceptance.  
And grief is not something you complete,  
But rather, you endure.  
Grief is not a task to finish  
And move on,  
But an element of yourself-  
An alteration of your being.  
A new way of seeing  
A new definition of self.



Anonymous

If you or someone you know is grieving, please think about contacting our Stephen Ministry team. We are here to listen to you, pray with you, and be there for you in our confidential ministry. Call our Referral Coordinator, Vince D'Agostino (804-461-8529) for more information.

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## REST STOP

Tuesdays, 3:00—5:30 PM, Chester UMC Annex

REST STOP is a Chester UMC after school program designed to provide rest and encouragement to at-risk youth from Thomas Dale High School. Our regular activities include snacks, conversation, homework, tutoring, games, outdoor activities, and dinner. Do you have a special gift to share with these young people or just an abundance of love to give? A small, faithful team is assembled to support this ministry, but you are encouraged to join the effort! Call Susan Petrey to volunteer or to sign up to provide a meal, or make a check payable to CUMC (memo: Rest Stop) to help cover our small expenses, including gas for the church bus. You will leave REST STOP with a joyful heart, receiving more than you gave! Please prayerfully consider how you can help. Contact REST STOP Team Leader Susan Petrey, 804/938-5396, for more information or to volunteer.

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## JUNE MISSION TRIP

Lynn Crump is planning another mission trip to Southwest Virginia for the week of June 11-17 or June 18-24. The team reports that there is still much work to be done, and they will again assist flood victims with home repairs. A variety of skills are needed and youth are invited to participate. For more details, please plan to attend an **informational meeting** after the 11:00 AM service on **Sunday, April 30**. POC: Lynn Crump (804-513-0260 / [lynncrumppla@gmail.com](mailto:lynncrumppla@gmail.com)).

**STAR WARS  
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
**JUNE 19-23, 2023**  
**CHESTER UNITED METHODIST**  
**WWW.CHESTERUMC.ORG**  
Pre-K through 5th Grade 

**REGISTER NOW!**

Monday, June 19, through Friday, June 23  
9:00 AM-12:30 PM  
Grades PK-5.

Register your child at  
<https://forms.gle/2avsjE5wDUK77RX17>  
or scan the QR code.

If you are interested in helping,  
contact Andy & Eileen Steck  
([andyei10twitchell@gmail.com](mailto:andyei10twitchell@gmail.com))

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW) is “a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ, to develop a creative, supportive fellowship, and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.”



- The **Jean Craig Fellowship** will meet on Monday, April 3, 7:00 PM, Room 205 to pack hygiene kits for UMCOR to be delivered to Annual Conference June 15-17 in Roanoke. Call Susan Petrey for details.
- The **Ada Mae Bookman Fellowship** will meet on Thursday, April 13, 10:30 AM. Call Martha Miles (804-748-5476) for details.
- The **Jean Craig Fellowship** will meet on Monday, May 1, 7:00 PM, Room 205 to continue working on hygiene kits for UMCOR. Call Susan Petrey for details.

To learn more about UMW, our two participating fellowships, and how you can become involved, please call Susan Petrey (804-938-5396).

**MISSION TRIP TO  
SOUTHWEST VA**

*March 12-18, 2023*

Lynn Crump led the CUMC mission trip to Grundy, VA. The team helped a man who had suffered a stroke and whose house was flooded. They did subflooring and paneling as well as helping him organize his belongings. The team also took a half day to visit the sites in the community, including Breaks Interstate Park and Southern Gap outdoor recreation area. Lynn shared that there was plenty of laughter and deep appreciation for the whole team, and that the man they helped seemed to be revived by their presence. Thank you to the UMVIM Mission Team members (from left to right): Scott Pugh, Willie Orton, Lynn Crump, Sherrie Orton, Bob Kutz, and Keith Mottley.



# 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 ([chadbeck@chesterumc.org](mailto:chadbeck@chesterumc.org))

**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 116; Facilitated by Jeff Marlin ([jeff.marlinabd@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.marlinabd@gmail.com))

**The Gathering Sunday School Class** 9:45 AM, Room 205, for singles/couples with/without children at home.  
POCs: Andrew Brummett ([andrew.brummette@gmail.com](mailto:andrew.brummette@gmail.com)); Brion Seward ([1bseward@comcast.net](mailto:1bseward@comcast.net));  
Sonja Seward ([sonjaseward@yahoo.com](mailto:sonjaseward@yahoo.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 & Dan Hayes ([JLMinNaples@msn.com](mailto:JLMinNaples@msn.com))

**Bridge Builders** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month, 12:15–1:30 PM, Room 226. Will meet April 16 and May 14.  
POC: Maureen Coker ([mcoker2003@comcast.net](mailto:mcoker2003@comcast.net))

**Middle & High School Youth Meetings** Scheduled Sundays, 2:30 PM, Annex Loft; 6<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grades are invited to join in study, missions, and fun! POC: Jennifer Brame ([youthleaders@chesterumc.org](mailto:youthleaders@chesterumc.org))

**Fiber Friends** 4th Sundays, 12:15—1:45 PM, Room 205, bring a bag lunch; Will meet April 30 (date change).  
POC: Beth Powner ([knit9grammy@gmail.com](mailto:knit9grammy@gmail.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:** 1st & 3rd Mondays, 2:00 PM, Community Room at Chester Village Senior APTS (11701 Chester Village DR).

**Joy Singers** (for our retired folks): Tuesdays, 10:30 AM, Music Suite.  
POC: Joshua Wortham ([music@chesterumc.org](mailto:music@chesterumc.org))

**Contemplative Prayer Group** Tuesdays 11:00 AM, Church Parlor. We read scripture and then focus, pray, chat, 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, Grants Coffee Co. (11884 Chester Village DR).  
POC: Vann Stanfield ([vannstan34@gmail.com](mailto:vannstan34@gmail.com))

**Women's Fellowship Luncheon** 1:00 PM, third Thursdays at a local restaurant. The next gathering will be on **Thursday, April 20**, Antonio's (11956 Ironbridge Plaza). POC: Joan Osborne ([josbor61@gmail.com](mailto:josbor61@gmail.com))

**Prayer Shawl Group** Thursdays, 1:30 PM, Church Parlor. All are invited to join us! We will happily teach you how to knit or crochet. POCs: Beverly Trevillian ([beverly.trevillian@comcast.net](mailto:beverly.trevillian@comcast.net));  
Betty Stone ([wva\\_lady@verizon.net](mailto:wva_lady@verizon.net))

**Women's Christian Book Club** 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday each month, 6:30 PM, Annex Loft. Next meeting is Thursday, May 4. You have a month to read each book before we gather to discuss it. POC: Jennifer Brame ([jrbrooksieec@gmail.com](mailto:jrbrooksieec@gmail.com))

**Estudio Bíblico de Mujeres** el primer y tercer miércoles de cada mes, a las 7:00 PM a 8:30 PM en el edificio Annex de la iglesia. Para más información habla con Pastor Chad ([chadbeck@chesterumc.org](mailto:chadbeck@chesterumc.org))

**"Strum and Smile" Small Group** Saturday mornings, 10:00 AM, Music Suite. 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 cut loose in a variety of musical madness. POC: Pastor Nathan ([nathandecker@chesterumc.org](mailto:nathandecker@chesterumc.org))



All ages are invited to play and share in the fun. This is a "Fresh Expression" of church in which we go where people are gathering in the community. Over time, as we play and build relationships with people who do not go to church, we invite them to be part of a small Christian group with us. Upcoming dates are **April 16, May 7, and May 21 at 4:30 PM** POC: Chad ([chadbeck@chesterumc.org](mailto:chadbeck@chesterumc.org))

## ONE COMBINED SERVICE APRIL 23

*10:30 AM on the Parsonage Lawn*

followed by a **POTLUCK PICNIC** in celebration of our 150th anniversary

Watch for more details in the Daily Highlights, the Bulletin, and the closed CUMC Facebook page.



## AFTERNOON TEA

Tickets for the Afternoon Tea on Saturday, April 29, from 2-4 PM have **SOLD OUT**. Proceeds will benefit the Chancel Choir Summer Tour and our CUMC Music Ministry.



†  
**COMMUNITY  
EASTER  
EGG HUNT**  
SPONSORED BY CHESTER UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH  
Call/Text Pastor Chad 434-907-7202

**SATURDAY APRIL 8, 2023 10:00AM  
GOYNE PARK 5300 ECOFF AVE.**

The poster features a blue sky with white clouds at the top, a green grassy field at the bottom, and a basket of colorful Easter eggs in the center. The text is arranged in a clear, bold font.

## CARDS FOR VETERANS FOR MEMORIAL DAY

Let's remember our veterans at McGuire Hospital and Sitter-Barfoot Veterans Care Center even as we honor service members who have died in military service to our nation. Cards are due Sunday, May 14. You may write things like "As I remember your fallen comrades, I appreciate your sacrifices for our country," "I hope you are feeling better," "Sorry you are in the hospital," "God loves you," etc. Include something about yourself, but **DO NOT** sign your last name or seal the envelope. Address envelopes "To a Special Veteran," or "To a Hero" and place them in the Sharing Bin outside the Welcome Center or in the labeled box in the Missions Closet. Thank you for your caring cards and notes. POC: Barbara MacIntyre ([telluwhatbarbara@aim.com](mailto:telluwhatbarbara@aim.com))







## PLANT AND SEED SWAP

**PLANT and SEED SWAP:** Sunday, May 7, 12:15 PM, fellowship hall. Do you have more okra or pea seeds than you know what to do with? Bought 12 tomato plants and only have room for 6? Bring your extras and meet other green thumbs and wannabe green thumbs. Let's swap seeds, share plants, and maybe talk a little dirt! POC: Katey Petrey McCarney (804/402-0084).

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## TRASH-A-THON

*Sunday, April 30*

2:00 - 4:00 PM

Goyne Park and Ecoff Elementary School

Chester UMC adults, youth, and children will join the JFWCC (Junior Federated Women's Club of Chester) in their Annual Trash-A-Thon. Please join us! POC Jennifer Brame ([youthleaders@chesterumc.org](mailto:youthleaders@chesterumc.org)).



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## BLOOD DRIVE—Book Your Appointment Today!

*Wednesday, May 10, 2023*  
(also July 5, and August 9, and November 15)

10:00 AM—3:00 PM in Davis Fellowship Hall  
[www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org)

Call the Church Office (804-748-6006) if you need assistance.

Thank you to all who donated in February! 22 donations were collected, which can save up to 66 lives.



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## KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS

Kroger recently awarded CUMC a quarterly check for \$757.96. Thank you to the 113 households in our church who shopped at Kroger from December through February! The Kroger Community Rewards Program makes fundraising easy...all you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your Plus Card! Program participants may only participate in the program at one Kroger location. *Enroll, verify that your enrollment is still active, or update where you shop by visiting [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com).* **The organization number for CUMC is NQ698.** Feel free to contact the Church Office if you need assistance.

# MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

## In Memory of John Cook

Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Henry, III  
Wayne and Ginny Virag  
The Law Office of Mary-Leslie Duty  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Britt  
Don and Pat Pospahala  
Elsie B. Ellis  
Lee and Louise Ross  
Janis Hargrave

## In Memory of Marylou Cumby

Guy W. Cumby, Jr.

## In Memory of Vernelle Curtis

Wayne and Debbi Banty

## In Memory of Betty Davis – Donations to the Prayer Shawl Ministry

Ed and Marian Garrett  
Willica Gaines  
Ruth McMath and family  
Tom Youngblood and Suzanne Streagle  
Howard F. Davis, Jr.

## In Memory of Paul Duffy

Don and Will Schmidt

## In Memory of Judy Dyson

Jim Dyson, Jr.

## In Memory of Edie Fails

Janis Hargrave  
Walter and Derinda Conner  
Jack and Linda Harris

## In Memory of Danny Harrington

Dr. and Mrs. C. L. Powell, Jr.

## In Memory Isabel Jones

Betty Martinko  
Wayne and Virginia Virag  
Rita Jones  
Don and Pat Pospahala  
Virginia R. Cragg and Family  
Ada Mae Bookman Fellowship  
Ela May T. Wulff

## In Memory of Cecil Burley & In Honor of Linda D'Agostino and Darlene Emerson

Candy Bray (to Altar Flower Fund)

## In Memory of Jackie Carson

Candy Bray (to Altar Flower Fund)

## In Honor of Ed and Marian Garrett

Martha G. Edwards (to the HVAC Fund)

## In Memory of all Members Lost in 2022

Bill and Karen Comer

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## NEW MEMBERS

*March 19, 2023 Confirmation Class*

*by profession of faith*

Ethan Decker

Franklin Fuller  
*Affiliate Member*

Liam Johnston

Jude Squires

Peyton Stone

Austin Voros

Reed Willingham

# PRESCHOOL UPDATE

The preschool year is wrapping up and I can't believe it is coming to a close. The children will be learning about Jesus' life and how he rose from the dead in order for our sins to be forgiven. The children have learned some conversational Spanish as well as the Mexican hat dance. They have taken adventures with the Magic Treehouse book series with Ms. Judy. Some adventures include the time of the dinosaurs, Ancient Egypt, the Amazon rainforest, the Ice Age, and even the moon. The children have also continued to learn and prepare for the next step of their education, either moving on to the four-year-old class or to Kindergarten.

We will be ending our year with a trip to the zoo and Graduation for our fours and Junior Kindergarten classes on Thursday, May 26 at 6:00 PM.

If you know of anyone that would be interested in attending the preschool please pass on my information to them. Jen Barnes, (804) 748-2275 or [preschool@chesterumc.org](mailto:preschool@chesterumc.org).

We will be opening our toddler class for the 2023-2024 school year.

Blessings and thank you for all the support of the preschool,  
Jen Barnes



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## CUMC ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW

**CHESTER UMC ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW** will be Saturday, May 6, from 9 AM - 4 PM, rain-or-shine in Davis Fellowship Hall and the Welcome Center parking lot. Admission is free. Peruse handmade crafts from CUMC crafters and many more. Don't miss this opportunity to pick up a few Mother's Day gifts while you browse. Breakfast and lunch items will also be on sale.

**If you craft and are interested** in obtaining a space, or know someone else who might be interested, download the application at [chesterumc.org/craft-show](https://chesterumc.org/craft-show). The cost for an inside 8' by 10' space is \$50; an outside 10' by 10' space is \$60. More information is listed on the application. *Please reserve your spot(s) ASAP.*

**Make checks payable to Chester United Methodist Women and mail with your application to:**



**Chester United Methodist Church**  
Attn: Katey McCarne  
12132 Percival ST  
Chester VA 23831

**POCs:**  
**Katey Petrey McCarney**  
[CUMCcraftshow@gmail.com](mailto:CUMCcraftshow@gmail.com)  
804/402-0084)

**Susan Mundell Petrey**  
(804/938-5396)

# THANK YOU NOTES

## Dear Members of the Visitation Ministry,

Thank you so much for your dedication to visiting our Mama, Betty Davis. She looked forward to your visits at the Richmond Hermitage. She enjoyed telling us about seeing you. She kept a beautiful card you gave her with a bluebird on it in her window sill. You were a special lifeline of love for her. Peace to you all-special gifts from God!

~Susan Davis, Karen Streagle, and Richard Davis

**From Barbara MacIntyre:** Thank you, thank you, thank you to all of the caring folks who wrote, signed, and/or made Valentine cards for our veterans. We Delivered 223! Sweatshirts, sweatpants, and a checkers game were also donated.

**From Gypsy Cook:** Thank you to all the members of the Stephen Ministry Team for the work you do to help us through difficult times. The information on grief will be very helpful. Knowing that you care means so much. May God bless you all during this holy season and always.

## Dear Prayer Warriors,

We appreciate all the prayers, calls, cards, food, and visits from our CUMC brothers and sisters in Christ. Your show of love for Ginny was felt by her and the family. Thank you so very much for all that you did for us.

May the Lord be with You, *Ginny & Wayne Virag*

## Dear Chester United Methodist Church,

Thank you for keeping me in your prayers all the time. I trust and believe in God that His healing power is upon me. Thank you for all the cards I received. They definitely help me during my healing process.

*Sincerely, Odette Burley*



## WALK IN THE LIGHT

**Walk in the Light 2023** was an event to honor Sophia Studer on her 16th birthday by walking or running 3.13 prayerful miles. The organizers' mission is to bring education, awareness, and funding to local mental health and suicide prevention resources. In March, our youth created posters to support the 3rd Annual Walk in the Light, and some of our youth also participated in the event.



## GRADUATE RECOGNITION

On **Sunday, May 7**, we will recognize all our 2023 graduates during worship! Whether you are graduating from high school, college, trade school, a certification program, or secondary education—any sort of graduation—we want to celebrate with you! *Please register in the pew pad* or notify the Church Office ([cumcsecretary@chesterumc.org](mailto:cumcsecretary@chesterumc.org)). Also, email or drop off 2 or 3 pictures (no later than April 24) so we can include you in our PowerPoint presentation. Be sure to attend in-person worship on Sunday, May 7, as we pray a blessing over you and honor your achievements!



## CUMC STAFF

Pastor: .....Rev. Nathan A. Decker ([nathandecker@chesterumc.org](mailto:nathandecker@chesterumc.org))  
 Associate Pastor: .....Rev. Chad T. Beck ([chadbeck@chesterumc.org](mailto:chadbeck@chesterumc.org))  
 Minister of Music: .....Joshua Wortham ([music@chesterumc.org](mailto:music@chesterumc.org))  
 Financial Specialist: ..... Julie Jones ([finance@chesterumc.org](mailto:finance@chesterumc.org))  
 Preschool Director: .....Jen Barnes ([preschool@chesterumc.org](mailto:preschool@chesterumc.org))  
 Nursery Staff: .....Carla Adams, Jessica Hargraves  
 Office Manager: .....Terry Wisegarver ([cumcsecretary@chesterumc.org](mailto:cumcsecretary@chesterumc.org))  
 Office Assistant: .....Sally Maxwell ([assistant@chesterumc.org](mailto:assistant@chesterumc.org))

# April Birthdays

## April 1

L Beazley  
Elaine Biedler  
Matthew Coyner  
Benjamin Lashley  
Carol Ray

## April 2

Malcolm Stone

## April 3

Don Clark  
Amy Tirrell  
Jake Zimmerman

## April 4

Shayna Barnes  
Virginia Dougherty  
Courtney Farrell  
Patrick Rhea  
Reed Willingham

## April 5

Andrew Biedler  
Anna Chitwood  
Amy Gray  
Carla Hoffmann  
Debra Lewis  
Zachary Lewis

## April 6

Adam Aslan  
Kathy Baker  
Lara Howe  
Daniel Spadaccia

## April 7

Audrey Farrell  
Roberta McCotter  
Reid Miller  
Caroline Rutledge

## April 8

Gavin Carraway  
Janet Farmer  
Olivia Johnson  
Andrew Meuller  
Jaime Wisegarver  
Lauren Wood

## April 9

Kathleen Hermann  
Brandon Lewis  
Savanna Schaffer  
Evan Slaasted  
Lisa Zoller

## April 10

Karen Cole  
Scott Hofmann  
Christopher Hulbert  
Elizabeth Porter  
Kathryn Smith  
Ayden Vargas  
William Waterson

## April 11

Megan Carson  
Merlin Mitchell  
Bob Nixon  
Ryan Patton  
Donald Tipton

## April 12

Lisa Irving  
Carter Keffer

## April 13

Jackson Angle  
Vince D'Agostino  
Stephen Kirtley  
Benjamin Patton  
Anna Thomas  
Darryl Trevillian

## April 14

Ashley Beckner  
Ian Drewry  
James Harris  
Kris Spadaccia

## April 15

Justin Blankenbecler  
Clarence Curtis  
Margaret Davis  
Donald Farr  
Jeremy Goodman  
Rakell Houston  
Ryan Moore  
Donna Nunery  
Jude Squires

## April 16

Teresa Blaylock  
Billy Coghill  
Matthew McHugh  
Kelly Woodard

## April 17

Aaron Anderson  
Ruth Copa  
George Lewis  
Greg Pennington  
Louise Sheets

## April 18

Anne McQueen  
Cassidy Roy  
Anna Thysell

## April 19

Kate Comer  
June Hopkins  
Louan Stanfield  
Walt Stone

## April 20

Stephen Bradley  
Mitchell Kessinger  
Carol Koon  
Ann Roper

## April 21

Joshua Daugherty  
Kathryn Goyne  
Jeff Harmon  
Aidan Kessinger  
John McCormack  
Lynn McHugh  
Donna Michaelis  
Scott Moody

## April 22

Gwen Byer  
Sandra Cherny  
Johnathan Hayes  
John Woods

## April 23

Isabella Brummette  
Catherine Castleberry  
Robert Davis  
Bruce Johnson  
Bryan Manuel  
Tam Moody

## April 24

Sue Coleman  
Elizabeth Denby  
Ileen Helm  
Walter Lipscomb  
Michael Meuller  
John Phillips

## April 25

Ava Gray  
Louis Ruffin  
Jennifer Smith

## April 26

John Ezell  
Natalie Farrell  
Queen Giles  
Hailey Houston  
Phyllis Knaack  
Julia Sharpe  
Ashley Watson

## April 27

Chad Beck  
Ava Brummette  
Benjamin Comer  
Elyse Snow  
Meghan Stewart-Morgan  
Parker Stone

## April 28

Kenneth Akom  
Verna Cook  
Miranda Grave  
David Mann

## April 29

Charleene Holmes  
Donald Sexton  
Sarah Walls  
Theresa Watson  
Steve Yuoconis

## April 30

Beth Comer  
Bradley Lenz  
Ruth Lucy  
Stacey Partin  
Erin Roberts  
Elizabeth Sarver  
Austin Voros

# May Birthdays

## May 1

Janet Bradley  
David Davis  
Timothy Ellis  
Clara Gestwick  
Regan Miller  
Thomas Moody  
Joe Spadaccia  
William Swofford

## May 2

Robert Bradford  
Aubrey Gibson  
Kathryn Lewis  
Carter McCants  
Rita Stewart

## May 3

Matthew James  
Margaret Kutz  
Vivian Wilkes

## May 4

Vickie Andrews  
Tucker Biedler  
Patrick Coker  
Robert Crowell  
Deborah Hetrick  
Dennis Janderwski  
Matthew Jenkins  
Emory Large  
Abby Miller  
Willie Orton  
Nancy Parker  
Diana Smith  
Phillipe Strange

## May 5

Dean Bodenhorn  
Nicholas Ford  
Brandon Hawkins  
Mari Hayes  
Grant Hutchins  
Frank Jones  
Chong McKnight  
Lisa Munchel  
Matthew Parisi  
Lauren Vaughan  
Lauren Wells  
Amanda Yerby

## May 6

Sarah Dovel  
Virginia Smith  
Barbara Yandle

## May 7

Francine Barnes  
Allison Faucette  
Ashley Faucette  
Draden Gaffney  
Sawyer Gaffney  
Nicholas Goodman  
Morgan Hall  
David Spadaccia  
Amy Trietiak

## May 8

Linda Harper  
Luka Seal

## May 9

Addie Fuller  
Mallory Hall  
Abigail Martin  
Bobbi Morrisette

## May 10

Abigail Bradford  
Todd Cassell  
Jim Davis  
Grace Dho  
Rod Martinko  
Dorothy Nugent  
Lydia Snyder

## May 11

Carson Davis  
Lisa Hammersley

## May 12

Yvonne Avery  
Ronan Ireland  
Laura Watson

## May 13

Keith Boyd  
Adiana Gilliam  
David Kirtley  
Troy Potvin

## May 14

Dave Coker  
Joan Gilpin  
Debra Gruschow  
Jason Hall  
Mindy Kelley  
Brooke Kiebler  
Carey Parisi  
Peyton Radford  
Raymond Smith  
Isabella Solaimani  
Brandon Williamson

## May 15

Anabel Bittenbender  
Lloyd Bradshaw  
Alexa Deckert  
Elizabeth Ford  
Lauren Townsend  
Pat Wood

## May 16

Mary Davis  
Zachary Jacka  
Jacob LeSeur  
Ashley Willis

## May 17

Rachel Bowman  
Wayne Helm

## May 18

Lisa Harmon  
Becky York

## May 19

Samantha Hetrick  
Damon Honn  
Jack Price  
Elizabeth Waldrop  
David Webb

## May 20

Ella Gray  
Paige Irving  
Camille Keffer  
John Walls

## May 21

Ehle Abicht  
Elizabeth Chapin  
Connor Jernigan  
Ethan Mick  
Blair Rodgers  
Theodore Sizemore

## May 22

James Asbury  
Diane Coghill  
Blakely James  
Terri Moody  
Wanda Reese  
Robert Vilak

## May 23

Amy Chitwood  
Ron Dombrowski  
Bobby Henderson  
Richard Parisi  
Robert Simmons

## May 24

Richard Beazley  
Martha Floyd  
Paige Smith

## May 25

Donna Elbon  
Daniel Morrison  
Robert Napolitano  
Brian Radford  
Richard Shoff

## May 26

Daniel Baylor  
Jeffrey Gaffney  
James Hargraves  
Joshua Hetrick  
Sue Latta  
James Strawn  
Charles Williams

## May 27

Harper Arntson  
Rachel Betz  
Rachel Dishman  
Edwin Hoffmann  
Robert Lowder  
Melissa Rasnick

## May 28

Logan Fields  
Jennifer Honn  
Robert Napolitano  
Ronald Patterson  
Raegan Wisniewski

## May 29

Janet Tipton  
Jennifer Winn

## May 30

Kaylee Fogleman  
Emily Galarza  
Barbara Giegerich  
Erika Haskins  
Benjamin Hetrick  
Amy Perdue  
Will Schmidt  
Pat Stanfield

## May 31

Jackson Akom  
Michael Blankenbecler  
Jennifer Brame  
Kathleen Kessinger  
Charlotte Taylor  
Peyton Taylor

**Chester United Methodist Church**  
**12132 Percival Street**  
**Chester, VA 23831**



**REMINDER:** Regular church office hours are 8:30 AM—2:00 PM Monday-Thursday.  
If you need to visit the office after 2:00 PM, kindly schedule the visit in advance.  
The office will be closed Easter Monday, April 10.



**CHIMES articles** may be submitted to [communication@chesterumc.org](mailto:communication@chesterumc.org).

The deadline for submission to the **June/July Chimes is Wednesday, May 17.**

## **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/bIV9Tv> to subscribe.

**YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/c/ChesterUMC>

**Prayer Chain Email:** Submit your name and email address to [cumcsecretary@chesterumc.org](mailto:cumcsecretary@chesterumc.org) with “Prayer Chain” in the subject line to subscribe.

**CUMC Library Catalog:** <https://16538.rmwebopac.com> (password: CUMC).

Search for titles, peruse our inventory, and much more. POC: Ron Dombrowski (rmachachi@aol.com)

Call the Church Office, 748-6006, for more information.