



September 10, 2023, 9:55 AM

WORSHIP MUSIC

I'll Fly Away
I Feel Like Traveling On
Glory to His Name
Boundless Love

SPECIAL MUSIC

In the Garden *with* What a Friend
Jack Price - Trumpet

SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 10:19-25 (NRSV)

MESSAGE

Growing by Getting Small
Pastor Nathan Decker

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

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: Joshua Wortham.....music@chesterumc.org
Office Manager: Michelle Couvillion.....office@chesterumc.org
Office Assistant: Sally Maxwell.....assistant@chesterumc.org
Financial Administrator: Julie Jones.....finance@chesterumc.org
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
September 10, 2023—8:30 AM



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

WORSHIP MUSIC

What a Friend
My Savior Lives
This is Amazing Grace

SPECIAL MUSIC

In the Garden *with* What a Friend
Jack Price – Trumpet

SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 10:19-25 (NRSV)

MESSAGE

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September 10, 2023

A Service of Worship and Praise
11:00 AM

15th Sunday
after Pentecost

Welcome, Announcements, and Greeting

Prelude

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Pianist

* Call to Worship¹

Leader 1: Be careful!

Leader 2: Watch out!

Leader 1: You might get a bad reputation coming to church with us.

Leader 2: If you haven't noticed, Jesus is known for keeping bad company.

Leader 1: Jesus was always eating and drinking with tax collectors and sinners.

Leader 2: Jesus even called Levi, one of Rome's tax collectors, and ranked him among the twelve apostles.

Leader 1: You didn't really expect us to find this church full of saints, did you?

Leader 2: Look around you. Every member of this church has confessed to being a sinner.

Leader 1: So be careful!

Leader 2: Jesus came to call not the righteous, but sinners.

People: Jesus, we have heard you call us to this place today. Our reputations are already smeared with our sin. We fit in here, with the rest of the sinners. We have come, so that you could set us back onto the narrow path of life.

* Opening Prayer²

Great Whirlwind, Burning Bush, Still Quiet Voice, LORD; who hovered over the chaos of creation, who breathed inspiring spring life into all creation, who walks among us still in this fragile and tattered garden. Challenge us to learn from one another, so that we may recall your Spirit speaks through all creatures, so that we may experience your presence and light in one another, so that your voice will be in the tones of our conversation. Jesus, Emmanuel, Wisdom Come Down in the Flesh, Amen.

* Hymn No. 133

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

* Affirmation of Faith No. 881

* 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.

Special Music

Stand Up!

Chancel Choir

Why We Give

Offertory

In the Garden with *What a Friend*

Jack Price, trumpet

* 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. 368

My Hope is Built

Children's Message & Bible Distribution

Rev. Chad Beck

Scripture

Hebrews 10:19-25

NRSV

Sermon

Growing By Getting Small

Rev. Nathan Decker

* Hymn No. 557

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

* Benediction

* Choral Amen

Chancel Choir

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

¹ ©2011 Abingdon Press, "Worship & Song Worship Resources." Pg. 29, #61.

² ©2017, Nathan Decker, <https://worshipswake.wordpress.com/2017/04/24/collect-for-a-small-group/>

The Flowers on the Altar are given to the glory of God by Linda D'Agostino and Darlene Emerson in memory of their father, Cecil W. Burley.

CALENDAR

September 10 – September 17, 2023

<p>Today 8:15 AM Nursery until 12 PM 8:30 AM Fresh Start Service-DFH 9:45 AM Sun Sch PreK-107 Sun Sch Gr K-5-206 9:45 AM Adult SS-Various 9:55 AM The Bridge-DFH 11:00 AM Traditions Service-DFH 2:00 PM Children & Families Team Mon: 6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Jean Craig Fellowship-205 Tues: 10:00 AM Worship Committee-Parlor 3:00 PM Rest Stop-Annex 5:00 PM Woodmen-DFH 7:00 PM ESL Intro and Level 1 Wed: 12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline 7:00 PM Chancel Choir-Music Suite Trustees Meeting-Annex Church Council-226 Thurs: 10:00 AM Ada Bookman- 226 1:30 PM Prayer Shawl-Parlor 6:00 PM Divorce Support-Parlor</p>	<p>7:00 PM ESL Intro and Level 1 Finance Meeting-116 Fri: 6:30 PM Latino Health-DFH Sat: 10:00 AM Strum & Smile-Music Suite 6:00 PM Family Game Night-DFH</p> <p>Next Sunday: September 17 9:30 AM Nursery until 11:30 PM 9:30 AM Adult SS-Various Sun Sch PreK-107 Sun Sch Gr K-5-206 Spiritual Practice-205 9:45 AM Advanced Planning-Parlor 10:30 AM WORSHIP-DFH 10:45 AM Advanced Planning-Parlor 12:00 PM Advanced Planning-Parlor 12:15 PM Small Group Leader Training/ Luncheon-DFH</p>
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SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SERMON TITLE</u>	<u>SCRIPTURE</u>
Sept. 17	House by House, Family by Family	Acts 16:25-34 NRSV
Sept. 24	Loving beyond Our Side of the Lake	Mark 5:1-20 CEB

Online Giving: To contribute online, scan the QR code with your smartphone or visit www.chesterumc.org and click “Online Giving.”



***We are truly blessed if you are a guest who has chosen to worship with us today!
First-time guests are invited to pick up a blue Welcome Bag from the Atrium or
Narthex. Thank you for celebrating the Lord with us today!***

Our Parish Nurse, Cindy Webb is available today, 9:00 - 10:45 AM (Office 111).

Play 'N' Share: *TODAY, September 10, 6:30 PM*, Point of Rocks Park playground (201 Enon Church Rd, Chester). All ages are invited, 2nd & 4th Sundays!

POC: Chad Beck (chadbeck@chesterumc.org)

Jean Craig Fellowship: *Monday, September 11, 7:00 PM*, Room 205; We welcome any women who are looking for an evening circle. Call Susan Petrey, 938-5396, for details.

Family Game Night: *Saturday, September 16, 6:00 PM*; There will be pizza, fun and games for the whole family. POC: Charlotte Brummette (Charl208@yahoo.com / 804-833-1174)

Small Group Training: *Sunday, September 17; 12:15 PM*, Davis Fellowship Hall. All small group leaders are encouraged to attend. We will share a light lunch as we learn and explore our unique opportunity (and responsibility) to help develop and grow disciples of Christ through our small group ministry. POC: Pastor Nathan, Beth Stewart (bethstew@gmail.com)

Advanced Planning Seminar: *Sunday, September 17*, in the Parlor after each worship service. Learn about the benefits of preplanning your final arrangements. This short seminar will focus on preplanning documents and information that should be available to your family when a death occurs. POC: Brion Seward (1bseward@comcast.net)

Nutshell Class: *September 24, 2023, at 9:30-10:30, Parlor*. Would you like to know more about our Church? Are you thinking about joining Chester United Methodist Church? Are you looking for a Mission that will help you better “connect” to God and our Church? If you answer yes to any of these questions, we invite you to come to the Nutshell Class. Sign up in the pew pad today or email office@chesterumc.org. POC: Joan Osborne (josbor61@gmail.com)

Bridge Builders: *Sunday, September 24, 12:15 PM*, Room 116,
POC: Maureen Coker (mcoker2003@comcast.net).

Dinner for Six or Eight: Couples and singles gather once a month September - November and January - May at a host home (who provides the meat and beverage). Others bring an appetizer (optional), bread, salad, vegetables, or dessert. Each month, someone else in the group hosts. Don't be shy...it may be any combination of up to 8 people, singles and couples. Once the groups are assigned, the host will contact you to schedule the first dinner and plan the meal. *If interested, please register in the pew pad and indicate if you are willing to host.* POC: Mary Musselwhite (804-330-0014)

KEEP IN PRAYER: Marie Perdue; family of Matt Coyner; Bill Burton; Jim Lewis; Leroy Millar; Ella Hilton; Erika Hilton; Lynn & Tom McHugh; Nathan Rutledge; family of Captain Jason Ware; family of Keith Harper; Louise Sheets; Peggy Meehan; E.J. Walters; Sue Matthews; Hailey Wilde; Becky Kirkman; Carol Davis; Nancy Corbin; Linda Willingham; Ruth DeVore; Rev. Eddie and Becky Leonard; Dee Watkins; Malcom & Dollie Stone; Lynda Richardson; Jo Kiser; Kitty Lipscomb; Clara Gestwick.

Our Presence September 3, 2023

10:30 One Service..... 148
 Online.....29
Total Worship Attendance..... 177

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 Michelle at office@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** – Submit items to assistant@chesterumc.org no later than the 3rd Wednesday of January, March, May, July, **September**, and November.

Leading Our Worship TODAY, September 10, 2023

Greeters:	8:30	Laura Hougland	
	9:55	Donna Nunery	
	11:00	Sharon Buchanan, Linda Large	
Ushers:	8:30	Gordon Jones*, Bill Comer	* Head Usher
	9:55	Jim Watkins*, JR Irvin	
	11:00	Gordon Morris*, Harold Crowder, Larry Koon, Emory Large, Jeff Marlin	
Nursery:	8:30, 9:55, 11:00	Staff Members, Carla Adams, Jessica Hargraves	

Homecoming Sunday: Sunday, October 8, following the 11:00 AM worship service. We invite you, and all that grew up at Chester UMC, to a Homecoming as we continue to celebrate our 150th Anniversary. Mark your calendars and join us for this event! We will convene in the Fellowship Hall for a covered dish lunch. Fried chicken will be provided by the History Committee. The scrapbooks showing how our church evolved over the years will be on display with other historic memorabilia. POC: Mary Musselwhite (804) 330-0014

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! Contact REST STOP Team Leader Susan Petrey, 804/938-5396, for more information or to volunteer.

THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW)

- **Jean Craig Fellowship:** *Next meeting, Monday, September 11, 7:00 PM, Room 205.* We welcome any women who are looking for an evening circle. Call Susan Petrey, 938-5396, for details.
- **Bookman Fellowship:** *Next meeting Thursday, September 14, 10:00 AM, Room 226.* We welcome any women who are looking for a morning circle. Call Martha Miles 804-748-5476

Grace in the Midst of Trouble: Thursday, September 21-October 26, 6:30 PM, Room 116. You are invited to join in a study that will explore God's grace in the lives of 6 Old Testament characters who find themselves out of sync with God. For six weeks we will explore how God interacts with these fallible characters with grace while at the same time holding them accountable for their actions. POC: Stan Hargraves (stanhargraves@vaumc.org)

Leading Our Worship Next Sunday, September 17, 2023

Greeters:	8:30 William & Karen Comer	
	9:55 Stephanie Decker	
	11:00 Steve & Joan Osborne	
Ushers:	8:30 Wendell Landis* Ron Dombrowski	* Head Usher
	9:55 Linda D'Agostino* Diane Medina	
	11:00 Will Hermann, James Bartlett, Marshall Henry, Willie Orton, Tommy Petrey	
Nursery:	8:30, 9:55, 11:00 Staff Members, Carla Adams, Jessica Hargraves	

SUNDAY SMALL GROUPS

Children's Sunday School: 9:45 AM. Pre-K (Rm. 107); Grades K-5 (Rm. 206).

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

Middle and High School Youth Sunday School: 9:45 AM, Annex Loft;

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

Adult Small Group Bible Study: 9:45 AM, Room 213 "Our Pad" facilitated by Jeff Marlin

POC: Jeff Marlin (jeff.marlinabd@gmail.com)

Fresh Start Sunday School Class: 9:45 AM, Room 221; Visitors and new members are welcome.

POC: Susan Petrey, 804-938-5396

Friendship Ministry Class: 10:40 AM, Room 116, for adults who are cognitively challenged.

POC: Mari and Dan Hayes (JLMinNaples@msn.com)

The Gathering Small Group: 9:45 AM, Room 205; We will begin the video series entitled, "Sacred Parenting. How Raising Children Shapes Our Souls". Join us for a time of study and fellowship with other young families. POCs: Brion & Sonja Seward and Andrew Brummette.

Journey Sunday School Class: 9:45 AM, Annex and Google Meet

(<https://meet.google.com/ptm-pieh-vve>) Pastor Chad will be leading a three-week study on the Book of Ruth. September 10, 17, & 24. POCs: Carolyn Landis(landisfamily05@gmail.com); Eric Hougland (ehougland88@gmail.com)

Seekers Sunday School Class: 9:40 AM, Room 226. Oct.1 - Nov. 26, We will be using a new study book SPIRITUAL WARFARE by Jack Kuhatschek. Lessons include: Facing Temptation, The War Within, and Surviving Satan's Attacks. The Bible has much to say about the battles we face. These studies will deepen our understanding of our supernatural struggles and direct us towards sources of power and hope. POC: Barbara MacIntyre (telluwhatbarbara@aim.com)

Senior Singles Sunday School Class: 9:45 AM, Parlor; (*Exception-on Sept. 17 & Sept. 24- meet in the music suite*) POC: Cynthia Corley (cacorley@ctsi.net)

Fiber Friends: (*resumes September 24*) Meets 4th Sundays at 12:15-1:45 PM; Room 205. All who enjoy knitting, crocheting, macrame, hand knitting, needlepoint, etc. are welcome to join! Bring a bag lunch. POC: Beth Powner (knit9grammy@gmail.com / 804 586 0735).

Play 'N' Share: 2nd & 4th Sundays, 6:30 PM, Point of Rocks Park playground (*201 Enon Church Rd, Chester*). A fresh expression of church in which we go where people are gathering in our community. POC: Chad Beck (chadbeck@chesterumc.org)

Middle & High School Youth Meetings: Resumes Sunday, September 17, 4:00 PM, Annex Loft; Meets on scheduled Sundays; for rising 6th through 12th grade. Join in study, missions, and fun! Youth and parents that are interested in attending the Matthew West and Micah Tyler concert in Richmond on Friday, November 3, contact Jennifer Brame. \$27 approximate ticket price. POC: Jennifer Brame (youthleaders@chesterumc.org)

OTHER 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: *3rd Monday* at 2:00 PM, Community Room at Chester Village Senior APTS (11701 Chester Village DR).

Joy Singers: *Tuesdays, (resumes September 19) at 10:30 AM* in the Music Suite. Rehearsals for our retired folks. This group sings for local nursing home residents and community groups. POC: Joshua Wortham.

Chancel Choir rehearsals, *Wednesdays, 7:00 PM*. Singers of all skill levels are welcome to join! POC: Joshua Wortham

Handbell Choirs for adults are coming back! *Wednesdays* at 10:30 AM and 5:45 PM. Start date TBA. POC: Joshua Wortham

Thursday Morning Men's Group: *Thursdays, 7:30 AM* at Grants Coffee Co. (11884 Chester Village DR). POC: Gordon Morris (gordo1545@aim.com)

Women's Fellowship Luncheon: *3rd Thursdays, 1:00 PM* at a local restaurant. The next gathering is on Thursday, Sept. 21 at 1:00 PM at Howlett's Restaurant and Tavern, (3530 Festival Park Plaza, Chester. RSVP by Monday, Sept. 18 to Joan Osborne (josbor61@gmail.com)

Prayer Shawl Group: *Thursdays, 1:30 PM*, 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. POCs: Beverly Trevillian (804-337-2367); Betty Stone (wva_lady@verizon.net/804-914-0433)

Women's Christian Book Club: Meets on 1st Thursdays, 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)

Latino Health and Safety: 1st Friday of each month, 6:00-8:30 PM, Davis Fellowship Hall. Childcare provided. POC: Chad Beck

Strum and Smile: Meets every Saturday morning at 10:00 AM. in the CUMC Music Suite. 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: Keith Woods

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Grace in the Midst of Trouble: Thursday, September 21-October 26, 6:30 PM, Room 116. You are invited to join in a study that will explore God's grace in the lives of 6 Old Testament characters who find themselves out of sync with God. For six weeks we will explore how God interacts with these fallible characters with grace while at the same time holding them accountable for their actions. POC: Stan Hargraves (stanhargraves@vaumc.org)

Kid's Koinonia Communion Training: Sunday, September 24, 5:00 PM. A time of art, craft, experience, and growth. Kids will have time with Pastor Nathan exploring how God loves us through bread, juice, and Jesus. On *Sunday, October 1*, during Communion at the Fresh Start Worship Service, the kids will assist serving the congregation the bread and cup. Please register your children in the pew pad today or contact the Church Office (office@chesterumc.org).



Whaley Pecans Annual Sale by the Ladies of Faith. Orders are being taken now. Harvesting will be late October with delivery in early November. *Register in the pew pad* or call Lorraine Young (804-748-6852) to order (\$12.00 per pound for halves or pieces). *Please make checks payable to Ladies of Faith.*

Communion Servers: This ministry is growing, and we'd love to include you! Youth and adult volunteers are invited to help the pastors serve communion. Training is provided as needed. Scheduling is based on your availability. POC: Beth Stewart -Text and indicate service time preference (919-210-2220 / bethstew@gmail.com).

Stephen Ministry: Are you stressed? Discouraged? Feeling Down? You don't have to go through difficult times alone. These are hard times we are experiencing in this post Covid world...job loss, divorce, loss of a relationship, even feeling out of touch with God. There are no problems that are too small. So, don't keep it all inside and struggle alone. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide you with confidential, one-on-one, Christian care and support to help you get through a tough time. Our Stephen Ministers are here to care. To find out more about Stephen Ministry, please talk with Vince D'Agostino at 804-461-8529.



TDHS 50th Class Reunion: October 7, 2023 at 3001 West Hundred RD. If you're a 1973 TDHS graduate, visit <http://tdhs1973.com/> to register and get full details on all of the events