

October 1, 2023, 9:55 AM

## **WORSHIP MUSIC**

Goodbye, World, Goodbye Soon and Very Soon, Bigger Than Any Mountain Take My Life

## SPECIAL MUSIC

Wonderful, Merciful Savior Charles & Cheryl Green

## **SCRIPTURE**

Philippians 2:1-13 (NRSV)

## **MESSAGE**

Humbly Serving the Well-Being of Others

Pastor Chad Beck

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
Director of Christian Formation: Juliana Paradie	julianaparadie@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

October 1, 2023—8:30 AM



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

## **WORSHIP MUSIC**

Awesome Is the Lord Most High Father, Spirit, Jesus Take My Life I Will Follow

#### SPECIAL MUSIC

Wonderful, Merciful Savior Charles & Cheryl Green

## **SCRIPTURE**

Philippians 2:1-13 (NRSV)

#### MESSAGE

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**October 1, 2023** 

## A Service of Worship and Praise 11:00 AM

World Communion Sunday

Welcome, Announcements, History Moment, and Greeting

Prelude

## A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Organist

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

Leader: Come, let us bow before the holy One.

People: Come, let us confess God's might.

Leader: Come, let us feel God's mercy.

People: Come, let us live in God's light.

Leader: As God's people, we lift our voices in praise. **People:** Glory to you, gracious and loving God!

Opening Prayer<sup>1</sup>

Gracious Lord, how shall we do your will today? Will it be in acts of praise, in gifts shared, in prayers lifted? Who will you lead us to serve? Help us trust you. Help us listen. Bless this community as we come together in worship. Encourage us, comfort us, unite us, make our joy complete. Amen.

\* Hymn No. 139

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

- \* 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.

Anthem

In Christ Alone

Why We Give

Offertory

Wonderful, Merciful Savior

Charles & Cheryl Green

\* 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

Children's Message		Juliana Paradie
Hymn No. 504	The Old Rugged Cross	Stanzas 1-3
Scripture	Philippians 2:1-13	NRSV
Sermon	Humbly Serving the Well-Being of Others	Rev. Chad Beck
Holy Communion		
Hymn No. 344	Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore	Stanzas 1-3
Benediction		
Choral Amen		Chancel Choir

<sup>\*</sup> Please stand as you are able. Bold print indicates a response in unison.

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 150<sup>th</sup> 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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/1670/worship-elements-september-27-2020

## **CALENDAR**

## *October 1 – October 8, 2023*

•	Nursery until 12 PM	Thurs:		Prayer Shawl-Parlor
	Fresh Start Service-DFH		6:30 PM	In the Midst of Trouble-116
9:45 AM	Sun Sch PreK-107			Women's Book Club-Annex
	Sun Sch Gr K-5-206		7:00 PM	ESL Intro and Level 1
	Adult SS-Various	Fri:	6:30 PM	Suenos Health & Safety for
9:55 AM	The Bridge-DFH			Latino Families-DFH
11:00 AM	Traditions-Sanctuary	Sat:	9:30 AM	Cantata/ Choir Workshop
12:00 PM	Key Club Board-116		10:00 AM	Strum & Smile-Music Suite
	Seed Swap-DFH			
12:15 PM	Fiber Friends-205	Next S	Sunday: Oc	tober 8
6:00 PM	Divorce Support- Parlor		8:15 AM	Nursery until 12 PM
Mon: 6:30 PM	Boy/Cub Scouts		8:30 AM	Fresh Start-Sanctuary
7:00 PM	Jean Craig-205		9:45 AM	Sun Sch PreK-107
Tues: 10:30 AM	Joy Singers-Music Suite			Sun Sch Gr K-5-206
2:00 PM	Stephen Ministers-226			Adult SS-Various
3:00 PM	Rest Stop-Annex		9:55 AM	The Bridge-Sanctuary
7:00 PM	ESL Intro and Level 1		11:00 AM	Traditions-Sanctuary
Wed: 10:00 AM	Visitation Team-226		12:00 PM	Homecoming Celebration
10:30 AM	Handbell Choir-Music Suite			and meal-DFH
12:00 PM	Bulletin Deadline		4:30 PM	Play'N'Share-Pnt of Rocks
5:45 PM	Handbell Choir-Music Suite			Divorce Support-Parlor
6:30 PM	Crew 2815-116			
7:00 PM	Chancel Choir-Music Suite			

## SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

<b>DATE</b>	SERMON TITLE	<b>SCRIPTURE</b>
Oct. 8	Passionate Worship	TBD
	-Homecoming Sunday-150 years!	
Oct 15	Heavenly Vision on Earth	Revelation 21:1-8 (NRSV)

<sup>\*</sup> Indicates that we will celebrate Holy Communion

<u>Online Giving</u>: To contribute online, scan the QR code with your smartphone or visit <u>www.chesterumc.org</u> 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 AM, New Location, Room 105.

<u>Seed Swap:</u> *Today, Sunday, October 1, following the 11:00 service* in the Fellowship Hall. It's party Thyme. Fall planting is here! Lettuce come together, green thumbs and black thumbs, take a 'Leaf' of faith - swap seeds, trade plants, try something new, and talk dirt. You don't have to bring anything to attend. All are welcome to the abundance. POC: Katey McCarney (804-402-0084)

<u>Jean Craig Fellowship</u>: will meet on Monday, October 2, 7:00 p.m. in room 205 to put together Halloween gift bags for UMFS. "We welcome any women who are looking for an evening circle. Call Susan Petrey, 804/938-5396, for details.

<u>Handbell Choir</u> rehearsals begin THIS Wednesday, *October 4*. Choose between 10:30 AM and 5:45 PM (or both!). Some music reading experience is preferred. POC: Joshua Wortham

<u>Cantata Choir</u> rehearsals begin Saturday, October 7, at 9:30 AM with a workshop. Sing with us as we prepare for our Christmas presentation of "Joy Has Dawned." Weekly rehearsals are held Wednesday nights at 7:00 PM. Singers of all skill levels are welcome! POC: Joshua Wortham

<u>Grace in the Midst of Trouble:</u> *Thursdays through October 26, 6:30 PM*, Room 116. You are invited to join in a weekly 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 (<u>stanhargraves@vaumc.org</u>)

Suenos: Health and Safety for Latino Families: October 6, and 1st Friday of each month, 6:30-8:00 PM, in Davis Fellowship Hall. A variety of topics related to health and safety, as well as food from different regions, will be presented at each gathering. Childcare provided. POC: Pastor Chad chadbeck@chesterumc.org

<u>Learning Spanish as Church Hospitality!</u> *Tuesdays & Thursdays*, 7:00-8:30 PM, Room 204, beginning October 10th. Have fun learning to speak some basic Spanish while sharing faith and church hospitality with Latino children and families. Sponsored by Sueños. POC: Pastor Chad (chadbeck@chesterumc.org) and Vince D'Agostino (vdagos@comcast.net).

**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 a visit in advance.

**KEEP IN PRAYER**: Earl Andrews; Beth Johnson; The family of Judy Thomas; Amanda Clark; Marie Perdue; Bill Burton; family of Matt Coyner; Trudy Milian; Martha Schulman; Jim Lewis; Leroy Millar; Ella Hilton; Erika Hilton; Lynn & Tom McHugh; Nathan Rutledge; family of Keith Harper; Louise Sheets; Peggy Meehan; E.J. Walters; Hailey Wilde; Becky Kirkman; Carol Davis; Nancy Corbin; Ruth DeVore; Rev. Eddie and Becky Leonard; Dee Watkins; Lynda Richardson; Malcom & Dollie Stone; Jo Kiser; Kitty Lipscomb; Clara Gestwick.

## Our Presence September 24, 2023

9:55 The Bridge Service	303
	.36
9:55 The Bridge Service	124
	.50
8:30 Fresh Start Service	.93

#### CHESTER UMC ONLINE RESOURCES

- Website: www.chesterumc.org.
- **Facebook:** https://www.facebook.com/ChesterUnitedMethodistChurch/.
- Facebook Closed Group: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/ChesterUMC/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/ChesterUMC/</a>.
- Daily Email News: Visit <a href="http://eepurl.com/blV9Tv">http://eepurl.com/blV9Tv</a> to subscribe.
- Daily Devotionals from Pastor Nathan:

https://www.facebook.com/BetterTogether.Devos/.

• YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/c/ChesterUMC.

Sherie Orton, Don & Will Schmidt

**Nurserv:** 

- **Prayer Chain Email:** to subscribe or to submit a prayer request, email Michelle at <a href="mailto:office@chesterumc.org">office@chesterumc.org</a> with "Prayer Chain" or "Prayer Request" in the subject line.
- CUMC Library Catalog: <a href="https://16538.rmwebopac.com">https://16538.rmwebopac.com</a> (password: CUMC). Search for titles, peruse our inventory, and much more. POC: Ron Dombrowski (rmachachi@aol.com).
- **The Chimes** Submit items to <u>assistant@chesterumc.org</u> no later than the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September, and **November.**

Leading Our Worship TODAY, October 1, 2023		
<b>Greeters:</b>	8:30	Bill & Karen Comer
	9:55	Cathy Epps
	11:00	Hunter & Martha Miles
<b>Ushers:</b>	8:30	Gordon Morris*, Ron Dombrowski * Head Usher
	9:55	Jim Watkins*, Andrew Brummette
	11:00	Gordon Jones*, Geoff LeSueur, Jeff Marlin, Willie, Orton, Tom Petrey
Communion	n	
Servers:	8:30	Jordan Beckner, Madison Beckner, Evan Voros, Alexandria Paradie, Joel Beck
	9:55	Paul Marretti, Cornelia Dewitt
	11:00	Christopher Brummette, Bella Brummette, Ava Brummette, Julius Paradie,

8:30, 9:55, 11:00 Staff Members, Carla Adams, Jessica Hargraves

**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)** Call Susan Petrey, 938-5396, to learn more about UMW, our two participating fellowships, and how you can become involved.

- **Jean Craig Fellowship**: will meet on Monday, November 6, 7:00 p.m. in room 205 to assemble CCHASM Thanksgiving Dinners. We welcome any women who are looking for an evening circle. Susan Petrey, 938-5396.
- Ada Mae Bookman Fellowship: Fellowship: will meet at 10 a.m. on Thursday, October 12. We welcome any women who are looking for a morning circle. Martha Miles 804/748-5476

<u>Salad Luncheon</u>: *Sunday, October 15 immediately following 11:00 AM worship.* All women of the church are invited to a luncheon meeting of the UMW. Lynn Crump will talk about CUMC's recent UMVIM mission trips to repair flood damage in Grundy in southwest Virginia. Bring a small donation to benefit the next UMVIM trip, a salad or dessert to share. The Jean Craig Fellowship will host. POC: Susan Petrey 938-5396.

<u>Red Cross Blood Drive:</u> *Wednesday, October 11, 10:00 AM-3:00 PM*, DFH. All blood types are needed. To make an appointment to donate blood, please visit <a href="https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=chesterumcva">https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=chesterumcva</a>

<u>Kroger Rewards:</u> Thank you to all who linked their Kroger cards to Chester UMC! 112 households participated between June and August, and Chester UMC received a check for \$670.91! To link your Kroger card, visit <a href="https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards">https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards</a>

## **Leading Our Worship Next Sunday, October 8, 2023**

Greeters: 8:30 Laura Hougland

**9:55** Stephanie Decker

11:00 Steve & Joan Osborne

Ushers: 8:30 Wendell Landis\*, Bill Comer \* Head Usher

9:55 Jim Watkins\*, JR Irvin

11:00 Will Herrman\*, James Bartlett, Bob Kutz, Emory Large, Scott Pugh

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 (<a href="mailto:chadbeck@chesterumc.org">chadbeck@chesterumc.org</a>)
- 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. Beginning October 22-Walk through the Bible's earliest source for the life of Jesus with scholar Amy-Jill Levine as she examines John the Baptizer, the Little Apocalypse, the Transfiguration, and several of Jesus' most notable stores and parables. 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 (<a href="https://meet.google.com/ptm-pieh-vve">https://meet.google.com/ptm-pieh-vve</a>) Pastor Chad will be leading a three-week study on the Book of Ruth. September 10, 17, & 24. POCs: Carolyn Landis(<a href="landisfamily05@gmail.com">landisfamily05@gmail.com</a>); Eric Hougland (<a href="ehougland88@gmail.com">ehougland88@gmail.com</a>)
- **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. Facing Temptation, The War Within, and Surviving Satan's Attacks. Deepen your understanding of supernatural struggles and find power and hope. POC: Barbara MacIntyre (telluwhatbarbara@aim.com)
- Senior Singles Sunday School Class: 9:45 AM, Parlor, POC: Cynthia Corley (<a href="mailto:cacorley@ctsi.net">cacorley@ctsi.net</a>)
- **Fiber Friends:** Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays at 12:15-1:45 PM; Room 205. We are knitters, crocheters, rug hookers, people who sew, macrame, embroider, and more! Friends and grandchildren are welcome. Bring a bag lunch and any treats you want to share. POC is Beth Powner, 804-586-0735 or (knit9grammy@gmail.com)
- **Play 'N' Share:** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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 today, Sunday, September 17, 4:00 PM, Annex Loft; Meets on scheduled Sundays; for rising 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Join in study, missions, and fun! POC: Jennifer Brame (youthleaders@chesterumc.org)

## OTHER SMALL GROUPS

<u>Faith Keepers Women's Prayer Group:</u> *Mondays*, 9:00 AM at Grants Coffee Co. (11884 Chester Village DR). POC: Julie Ferry (juliejferry@gmail.com)

<u>Village People Study, Socialize, & Service Group:</u>  $3^{rd}$  *Monday* at 2:00 PM, Community Room at Chester Village Senior APTS (11701 Chester Village DR).

<u>Joy Singers</u>: *Tuesdays, 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.

<u>Sueños: ESL (English as a Second Language):</u> *Tuesdays & Thursdays*, 7:00-8:30 PM. POC: Pastor Chad (chadbeck@chesterumc.org)

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

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

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

<u>Women's Fellowship Luncheon:</u> 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays, October 19, 1:00 PM at River's Bend Grill, 13283 River's Bend Blvd). RSVP by Monday, October 16. POC: Joan Osborne (<u>josbor61@gmail.com</u>)

<u>Prayer Shawl Group:</u> 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 (<u>wva\_lady@verizon.net/804-914-0433</u>)

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. Our September book is *Break of Day by Colleen Coble*. https://www.amazon.com/Break-Day-Annie-Pederson-Novel/dp/0785253785
POC: Jennifer Brame (jrbrooksieee@gmail.com)

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

<u>Play 'N' Share:</u> 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, 4:30 PM, (October 8) Point of Rocks Park playground (201 Enon Church Road, Chester). A fresh expression of church in which we go where people are gathering in our community. POC: Juliana Paradie, (julianaparadie@chesterumc.org)

<u>Trunk or Treat:</u> Saturday, October 28, 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM, Chester Small Business Trunk or Treat at Three Leg Run, 4418 W Hundred Road. Decorate your car! All are invited! Sign up in the pew pad activity sheet. POC: Juliana Paradie (904) 386-4385.

<u>Bridge Builders-Jail Ministry</u> "Acceptance is the Answer". Would you like to join us as we look to strengthen our Jail Ministry with the Chesterfield County HARP (Helping Addicts Recover Progressively) program? Are you a disciple who sees value in all people and feels called to build relationships in the community which fosters understanding and appreciation of our differences? Bridges Builders meets on the second Sundays of each month., POC: Maureen Coker (mcoker2003@comcast.net)

<u>Communion Servers:</u> 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).

**Family Game Night:** *Saturday, October 21, 6:00 PM;* There will be pizza, fun and games for the whole family. POC: Charlotte Brummette (Charl208@yahoo.com / 804-833-1174)

<u>Chester UMC is proud to be a Bridge Church</u>, welcoming those who wish to remain United Methodist after their church disaffiliates. We will be a safe place of support and opportunities for connection and discernment, without pressure to assimilate or join our congregation. For more information about Bridge Churches visit, <a href="https://nextsteps.vaumc.org/bridge-churches/">https://nextsteps.vaumc.org/bridge-churches/</a>

<u>Lutheran Church of Our Saviour 24th Annual Craft Fair</u>: Saturday, October 21, 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM. All items are made or donated by members of the congregation.

**90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration for Peggy Bishop!** Saturday, October 7, 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM. Join family and friends at a drop-in celebration in Peggy's honor. First-floor dining room at Springdale Independent Living, 6653 Roundabout Way, Chesterfield. No gifts, please. POC: Terri Bishop Burgess, 804-564-8478.

**Living Waters District Charge Conference:** Tuesday, October 24, 7:00 PM at CUMC. The Charge Conference directs the work of the church and gives general oversight to the Church Council, reviews and evaluates the mission and ministry of the church, sets salaries for the pastor and staff, elects the members of the Church Council, and recommends candidates for ordained ministry.



Whaley Pecans Annual Sale by the Ladies of Faith. Orders are being taken now through October 15<sup>th</sup>. Harvesting will be late October with delivery in early November. Payment can be made in advance or when picking up pecans. Proceeds earned from the pecan sale are donated to the church. Past sales have helped fund HVAC and kitchen updates. *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*.

<u>Dinner for Six or Eight</u>: Couples and singles gather once a month October-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)

Stephen Ministry: Stephen Ministers Are Care-Givers, God Is the Cure-Giver The role of our Stephen Ministers is to give care. They listen, empathize, encourage, pray, and provide emotional and spiritual support on a weekly basis to hurting people for as long as the need persists. God works in and through them to bring hope and healing. If you are feeling lonely, experiencing a crisis, struggling through a difficult time, or simply stressed by everyday life, please call Vince D'Agostino at 804-461-8529 to learn more about Stephen Ministry. Vince D'Agostino at 804-461-8529.

Backpack Ministry: Our Backpack Ministry is going strong! We are helping currently helping 45 children each weekend. How can you help? Food donations or cash donations are always appreciated! There are specials at Kroger and Food Lion during the time frame of 9/20 to 9/26 (specials run Wednesday to Tuesday each week). At Kroger – if you buy 5 of these items they are only 99¢ each – Chef Boyardee Pasta or Kroger 16 oz. creamy peanut butter. (Must also use your Kroger card.) At Food Lion, they have Knorr sides for \$1 each when using your Food Lion valued customer card. Look on the back of the package and get the ones that have serving size of 2.5. Donations can be placed in the Backpack bin in our Missions closet.

Blessing of the Animals Service: Sunday, October 1, 2023, 2:00 PM, St. John's Episcopal Church, 12201 Richmond Street, Chester. Please join us with your pets secured in a carrier or on a leash in the St. John's courtyard. We will be collecting clean old towels and blankets to donate to the Chesterfield Animal Shelter. We welcome everyone from the community to participate in this very special occasion for our pets.