

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2023

THE CHIMES

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



A Community in Christ
Chester United Methodist Church

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Contemporary Worship
Sanctuary
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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*Enter Into His Gates With Thanksgiving
and His Courts With Praise!*

Psalm 100:4

Homecoming Sunday



Sunday, October 8

Following 11:00 AM worship service

All are invited to join the celebration of our 150th anniversary! We'll have a covered dish lunch with fried chicken provided by the History Committee.

POC Mary Musselwhite (804 330-0014)

Save the Date...Mission Sunday is October 29

We can all make a positive impact in our community!

Details coming soon in Sunday bulletin.

EMBRACING DIVERSITY

by Nathan Decker

“There's no key to great relationships, there's simply a well worn welcome mat.”

-Curtis Jones

“All means all.” I have a button in my office with a colorful background from an Annual Conference years ago that says this. At first glance this seems so simple. Yet, our world is a post tower of Babel world where we like the comfort of familiarity and often fear different or at our worst become tribally-centric believing ours better than others. Welcoming people isn't enough; we must **see** people as who they are and **love** them as beloved by God. This isn't easy, but let's be honest as disciples of Jesus, faith isn't supposed to be easy.

When God created the heavens and the earth, he was not interested in front yards with a monoculture picturesque lawn of Kentucky 31. God created oceans teeming with mollusks, mammals, reptiles, fish, and coral all mixed together to benefit each other. God spoke the blessing “it is good” upon the many flocks of birds in the air and the various plants, animals, and humans upon the land. Nature abhors monoculture and craves diversity by the intentional design of our Creator.

Jesus reflected this in his ministry. He included among the Twelve a diversity of thought. Simon the Zealot probably would have put an “Israel First” bumper sticker on his camel and called Matthew the Tax Collector a traitor. Judas Iscariot may have been a part of the militia group, the *Sicari*, while Andrew was among those hippie *Essenes* who followed John the Baptizer. Jesus included Women in a world that saw them as partially human. Jesus interacted with Samaritans, Syro-Phonicians, Romans, and all sorts of Gentiles. Our Lord saw the boundaries of human beings as places where we could meet one another and learn from each other. Jesus embraced diversity.

So did the early Church. One of the things that made the early church unique and perhaps sparked the radical growth was just how many aspects of the Socio-economic and political world met each other at the Table. Those on the margins were not just welcomed but included and empowered by those who benefited from birth, inheritance, or accumulated wealth and power. Paul was just as comfortable speaking with Roman Governor Felix as he was with the runaway slave, Onesimus. The early church was by design, diverse.

Being diverse takes work. Not six chapters into the book of Acts do we find the early church divided over heritage, ministry, and even what it means to follow Jesus. Embracing diversity requires listening with a repentant and forgiving heart. People have hurt each other in the past, and the church needs to be the place where reconciliation can begin through hard conversations about what has occurred and even harder conversations about moving forward in love.

The blessings of being around people who are different in skin, culture, experience, love, and thought are innumerable. I've never learned much from those I already knew or shared the same life journey as me. God shares abundance in lessons from those who are not like me. The church by God's design is meant to be filled with different.

A part of our vision at Chester UMC is to Embrace Diversity. We embrace all the rainbow of God's humanity. As a church, we are intentionally encouraging those who disagree to begin having conversations and sharing perspectives. We are making connections with Spanish-speaking neighbors in our community. We include our Friends ministry in our worship. Following Jesus, we embrace diversity.

“Live in harmony with one another.

Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly.

Never be wise in your own sight.”

- Romans 12:16 ESV



MUSIC NOTES

Our music ministry is back in full swing this fall! Thinking about joining our choir but not ready for the full-time commitment? Join us for the Christmas cantata! Singers of all skill levels are welcome without audition. We will kick off with donuts and a workshop on Saturday, October 7, at 9:30 AM. Rehearsals are held on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM. Rehearsal recordings are provided to help you learn your part. "Joy Has Dawned" will be presented on December 10, 11, and 12.



Handbells are making a triumphant return this fall! Rehearsals will be held on Wednesdays at 10:30 AM and 5:45 PM. This group is open to adults and youth (with some music experience). Contact me for more info or to talk about how you can get involved! Our first rehearsal will be on October 4.

Looking for a fun night on the town? Check out Georgia Rogers Farmer and me in "Re-Butter That Biscuit," a cabaret, at Richmond Triangle Players. This show runs October 19, 20, and 21, at 8:00 PM. For tickets, visit www.rtriangle.org.

"Sing"-cerely,

Joshua Wortham
Minister of Music



Chester UMC Office Hours

Monday - Thursday

8:30 AM - 2:00 PM

If you need to visit after hours, please call during office hours to schedule your visit.

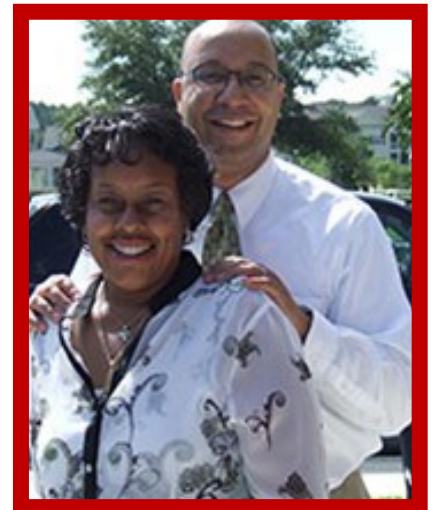
Thank you!

STEWARDSHIP

"Do all the good you can, By all the means you can, In all the ways you can, In all the places you can, At all the times you can, To all the people you can, As long as ever you can." — John Wesley

October is Commitment Month. On Sunday, October 8, we will celebrate the 150th Anniversary of our church being a great steward of our resources and a wonderful builder of disciples for God. It will be a time to celebrate the wondrous ways our faith and ministries have bettered our local and global neighbors. As we celebrate, we need to pray for, plan for, and commit to our future.

Pray for our missions, people, neighbors, and ministries,. Pray about how each of us can use our time, talents, gifts, treasure, and witness to better the wonderful world we live in. We need to plan to be great stewards and disciples. To be transparent, the church's budget is stretched. As we desire to do more good and bring back pre-pandemic ministries, we need our first mile giving to increase. We need your commitment. **Sunday, October 22 is Commitment Sunday.** This is a time to express your financial commitment to supporting our church's ministries with a generous pledge. We also ask that you commit to listing CUMC as a beneficiary on your insurance policies and in your will. The latter is a great way to ensure your legacy.



Bryon and Josefa Wall, Stewardship Co-Chairpersons

**WELCOME
JULIANA PARADIE
Director of Christian
Formation**



Juliana Paradie was born in Ukraine and speaks fluent Ukrainian. When she was 10, her family moved to Ohio. Juliana attended Central Bible College in Missouri and graduated from Evangel University with a Bachelor's in Business Management and a Minor in Youth Ministry. Juliana is attending Liberty University online and will complete her Master's Degree in Divinity next year. Her stops in life have included living in Florida, New York, California, and Utah, where she worked for Teen Challenge and Youth Challenge.

Juliana and her husband Corey have 2 beautiful kids, Julius and Alexandria. God called their family to Chesterfield 6 years ago, where Juliana led Youth Ministries in Matoaca and Midlothian, and served in the Children's Ministry in their local church.

Juliana has a passion to serve and to help young people develop a closer relationship with Christ. She enjoys traveling, going to the beach, and playing sports.



BLOOD DRIVE--Book Your Appointment Today!



*Wednesday, October 11, 2023
Wednesday, November 15, 2023*

10:00 AM—3:00 PM in Davis Fellowship Hall

Sign up online at:

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=chesterumcva>

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

CHESTERFIELD COUNTY FAIR SUCCESS!

By Stacey Ferrer

What an incredible nine days at the Chesterfield County Fair! With 128 dedicated individuals including children, youth and adults, we sold and collected tickets for 26 shifts and provided a little over 1,000 volunteer hours. During that time, we welcomed over 50,000 fair guests with Chester UMC's smiling hospitality, Christian love and blue t-shirts.

Something else awesome happened during our nine days that I did not anticipate. Our members welcomed their families and friends outside of Chester UMC to come volunteer with them. Volunteering also provided a wonderful opportunity for our members to spend time with other members that they did not know within our congregation. Each volunteer shift became its own small group.

But wait, there's more! Our efforts were also a fundraising opportunity for our church. I am delighted to report that the Chesterfield County Fair Association was extremely pleased with our volunteer contribution, and we have received a check in the amount of **\$8,500!** These funds will be utilized in part for the new automated door system in the Welcome Center.

Lastly, I just want to say a heartfelt "**thank you**" to everyone who volunteered or supported us through prayer. Rain is typically not something you want to associate with the county fair, but I truly felt the joy and blessings of God raining upon me each day as empty shifts were filled by our amazing volunteers!

Much love to you all!



Just a few of the volunteers who helped Chester UMC spread love in our community and earn \$8500 for our church! We are so grateful to Stacey and all who volunteered!



Stacey Ferrer worked tirelessly throughout the Chesterfield County Fair to recruit, organize, and lead volunteers.

LEARN TO SPEAK SPANISH

Learning Spanish as Church Hospitality! Tuesdays & Thursdays, 7:00-8:30 PM, room 204, beginning October 12th.

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).

SUNDAY SMALL GROUPS

Children's Sunday School 9:45 AM. Pre-K (Rm. 107); Grades K-5 (Rm. 206). POC: Chad Beck (chadbeck@chesterumc.org)

Fresh Start Sunday School Class 9:45 AM, Room 221; POC: Susan Petrey (804-938-5396)

Journey Sunday School Class 9:45 AM, Annex and Google Meet (<https://meet.google.com/ptm-pieh-vve>)
POCs: Carolyn Landis (landisfamily05@gmail.com); Eric Hougland (ehougland88@gmail.com)

Seekers Sunday School Class 9:40 AM, Room 226; POC: Barbara MacIntyre (telluwhatbarbara@aim.com)

Senior Singles Sunday School Class 9:45 AM, Parlor; POC: Cynthia Corley (cacorley@ctsi.net)

Adult Small Group Sunday Bible Study 9:45 AM, Room 213 "Our Pad," Facilitated by Jeff Marlin (jeff.marlinabd@gmail.com)

The Gathering Sunday Small Group 9:45 AM, Room 205, Join us for study and fellowship with other young families. POCs: Andrew Brummette (andrew.brummette@gmail.com); Brion Seward (1bseward@comcast.net); Sonja Seward (sonjaseward@yahoo.com)

Middle and High School Youth Sunday School 9:45 AM, Annex Loft
POCs: Pastor Chad Beck (chadbeck@chesterumc.org), Juliana Paradie (julianaparadie@chesterumc)

Friendship Ministry Class 10:40 AM, Room 116, for adults who are cognitively challenged.
POC: Mari & Dan Hayes (JLMinNaples@msn.com)

Bridge Builders 12:15 PM, Room 116, October 22 and November 19. POC: Maureen Coker (mcoker2003@comcast.net)

Fiber Friends 4th Sundays, 12:15 PM, Room 205, bring a bag lunch and project to work on. POC: Beth Powner (knit9grammy@gmail.com / 804 586 0735)

Middle & High School Youth Meetings On scheduled Sundays, 4:00 PM, Annex Loft. For 6th through 12th grade.
POCs: Jennifer Brame (youthleaders@chesterumc.org), Juliana Paradie (julianaparadie@chesterumc)

Play 'N' Share: 2nd & 4th Sundays, 4:30 PM, Point of Rocks Park playground. (201 Enon Church Rd, Chester). All ages are invited! POCs: Pastor Chad (chadbeck@chesterumc.org), Juliana Paradie (julianaparadie@chesterumc)

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 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)

Chancel Choir Rehearsals Wednesdays, 7:00 PM, Music Suite. Singers of all skill levels are welcome to join us!
POC: Joshua Wortham (music@chesterumc.org)

Handbell Choirs for adults are back! Wednesdays at 10:30 AM and 5:45 PM. POC: Joshua Wortham (music@chesterumc.org)

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

Women's Fellowship Luncheon 1:00 PM, third Thursdays at a local restaurant. The next gathering will be on Thursday, October 19, at River's Bend Grill, 13283 Rivers Bend DR, Chester. RSVP by Monday, October 16. POC: Joan Osborne (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 (804 3377-2367 / beverly.trevillian@comcast.net); Betty Stone (804 914 0433 / wva_lady@verizon.net)

Women's Christian Book Club 1st Thursday each month, 6:30 PM, Annex Loft. You have a month to read each book before we gather to discuss it. POC: Jennifer Brame (jrbrooksiee@gmail.com)

"Strum and Smile" Small Group Saturday mornings at 10:00 AM, Music Suite. Guys & gals who play stringed instruments with no intention of performing. All levels of play are welcome! POC: Keith Woods (the.gibson.kw@gmail.com)

Middle & High School Youth Meetings Monthly gatherings for 6th through 12th grade. POC: Jennifer Brame (youthleaders@chesterumc.org)

Sueños: Health and Safety for Latino Families meets 1st Friday of each month, 6:00 - 8:30 PM in the fellowship hall. Next meeting is Friday, October 6. 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: Chad Beck (chadbeck@chesterumc.org)

Sueños: ESL Classes Tuesday and Thursday, 7:00 - 8:30 PM. POC Pastor Chad Beck (chadbeck@chesterumc.org)

Learning Spanish as Church Hospitality Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7:00-8:30 PM, room 204. 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).

FIBER FRIENDS

Fiber Friends is back! Do you enjoy knitting, crocheting, sewing, or any other type of fiber arts? If so, grab your project and a sack lunch and join us? We meet on 4th Sundays after the 11:00 AM worship service. All are welcome-- church members, friends, kids, and grandkids! You'll be inspired by the projects others are working on and enjoy great fellowship! Please contact Beth Powner for more information. (804-586-0735 / knit9grammy@gmail.com)



You're Invited!

OCTOBER 28TH

Decorate your car!
Fun for All Ages!

Chester Small Business

TRUNK OR TREAT

Text or Call
Juliana Parodie to
RSVP: (904)
386-4385

Saturday, October 28, 12 - 4 PM
Three Leg Run, 4418 W Hundred Rd, Chester

Please RSVP by Sunday, October 22
Candy donations for Trunk or Treat will be gratefully accepted in the Missions Closet.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministers Are Care-Givers, God Is the Cure-Giver.

Stephen Ministers listen, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support while maintaining complete confidentiality. God works in and through Stephen Ministers 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.



FAMILY GAME NIGHT AND R & R

Join us for a fun night of fellowship, pizza, and games of course! All ages welcome--bring any games you may have, a snack to share if you wish, and be in the mood for some fun. Invite your neighbor, your colleague, your grandkids, whoever!



Family Game Night and R & R is on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 6:00 PM in the fellowship hall. Upcoming dates are October 21 and November 17.

We are also so excited to begin our R&R (Rest and Relaxation) piece of this ministry! Parents, grandparents, or caretakers often get very little time to themselves or as a couple, and we want to help share the load. Each month during family game night, some of our families can drop their kids off knowing they are in a safe, fun environment. The next month other adults will have their turn to take a night off. We will rotate who is staying and who gets a night out. Feel free to just enjoy a fun evening with your kids if you don't wish to participate in the R & R part of Family Game Night.

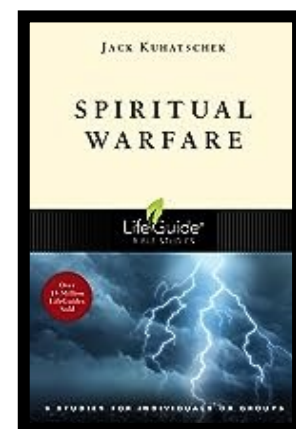
If you'd like to participate in R & R, please contact Jen Fournelle (jen4nell@yahoo.com) or Talina Beck (talina.sarmiento@gmail.com).
POC for Family Game Night: Charlotte Brummette (charl208@yahoo.com)

SEEKERS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

October 1 - November 26

We will be using *Spiritual Warfare* by Jack Kuhatschek as our study book. Come deepen your understanding of our supernatural struggles and be directed toward sources of power and hope. We meet Sunday mornings at 9:40 AM in room 226.

POC: Barbara MacIntyre (telluwhatbarbara@aim.com)





Sign up by October 8! Dinner for Six or Eight is a fabulous way to get to know others at Chester UMC in a relaxed and fun setting. Everyone is welcome to join--singles, couples, young, mature, great cooks, and those who don't cook. New groups form each fall, and typically get together once a month. The host provides a main dish and beverages, and guests bring something to share. Please call Mary Musselwhite at (804) 330-0014 to join in the fun.

THANK YOU CARDS FOR VETERANS

Veteran's Day is November 11, and as always we want to show our veterans at McGuire Hospital how much we appreciate them and their sacrifices. If you would like to participate, please write thank you cards and deliver to the labeled box in the sharing bin (outside the Welcome Center) or in the Missions Closet by **Sunday, November 5**.

Cards can be hand made or store bought, and children are encouraged to participate.

Please do not seal the envelopes, and sign only your first name.

Some ideas of what you might write in the cards: "Thank you for your service and sacrifice," "I'm praying for you," "I celebrate you on Veteran's Day for your courage and commitment to our country." You may also include a Bible verse that you find comforting.

Thank you for supporting this important mission!

Barbara MacIntyre (telluwhatbarbara@aim.com)



WHALEY PECANS ANNUAL SALE

Don't miss out on delicious, fresh pecans for holiday baking and hostess gifts! Place your order by **October 15!**

Pecans will be harvested in late October and delivered in early November. Proceeds from the sale stay right here at Chester UMC, helping to fund projects such as kitchen and HVAC upgrades.

Price is \$12 per pound, and payment can be made when ordering or picking up. Order in the pew pad or call Lorraine Young at (804) 748-6852. Please indicate if you want halves or pieces, and make check payable to *Ladies of Faith*.



Thank you to all who linked 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 <https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>

PRESCHOOL

Thank you to everyone who donated to the school supply drive! Thanks to your generosity we have all the needed supplies for the children.

This year we have re-opened a toddler class, after a three-year hiatus. We love teaching even the youngest children all about God's love for them! Our students are settling into classroom routines and in October will begin attending resources such as chapel, music, and interactive story time. The four-year-old and Junior Kindergarten classes will also start Spanish lessons.

We are thrilled to have Pastor Nathan, Pastor Chad and Juliana participating in Chapel lessons with the children this year. It is going to be so much fun!

Finally, a quick shout-out to some behind the scenes people. Recently, a prospective parent touring the preschool shared that she was impressed with the cleanliness of our preschool and church facilities. Thank you to Tammy, Jerry, and everyone else who works hard to keep our preschool and church clean! (And yes, she did enroll her child with us!)

Thank you for your continued support of the preschool. Please keep our children, teachers, and families in your prayers.

Blessings,
Jen Barnes
(804) 748-2275
preschool@chesterumc.org



CUMC STAFF

Pastor:.....Rev. Nathan A. Decker (nathandecker@chesterumc.org)
Associate Pastor:.....Rev. Chad T. Beck (chadbeck@chesterumc.org)
Minister of Music:.....Joshua Wortham (music@chesterumc.org)
Director of Christian Formation.....Juliana Paradie (julianaparadie@chesterumc.org)
Financial Specialist:Julie Jones (finance@chesterumc.org)
Preschool Director:.....Jen Barnes (preschool@chesterumc.org)
Nursery Staff:Carla Adams, Jessica Hargraves
Office Manager:Michelle Couvillion (office@chesterumc.org)
Office Assistant:Sally Maxwell (assistant@chesterumc.org)

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.”

- **Jean Craig Fellowship**—will meet on Monday, October 2, 7:00 PM 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.
- **Ada Mae Bookman Fellowship**—will meet at 10 AM on Thursday, October 12. Call Martha Miles (804) 748-5476.
- **Salad Luncheon**—**All Women of the Church** are invited to a luncheon meeting of the UMW **Sunday, October 15** immediately following 11:00 worship. 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 and a salad or dessert to share. The Jean Craig Fellowship will host.
- **Turkey Pot Pie**—November 4
 9 AM preparation—many hands make light work
 6 PM dinner and entertainment
- **Jean Craig Fellowship**—will meet on Monday, November 6, 7:00 PM in room 205 to assemble CCHASM Thanksgiving Dinners. Contact Susan Petrey for details.

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

TURKEY POT PIE DINNER



Saturday, November 4, 6:00 p.m. *All Members of the Chester Community* are invited to feast on **Turkey Pot Pie** and all the trimmings *plus* musical entertainment from **THE GREENS & THE SEALS**, local CUMC talent with beautiful harmonies. Proceeds will help support the mission projects of the United Methodist Women, including, but not limited to CUMC Food Pantry, Backpack Ministries, Christmas Mother, Samaritan Fund, and Rest Stop.

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE BEGINNING OCTOBER 1 in the **Welcome Center** following each worship service. *Tickets, are required, \$15 per person*, checks made payable to **Chester UMW**. For more information please call the church office, (804) 748-6006 or Susan Petrey, (804) 938-5396.

*UMW
Christmas
Cookie Sale*

Sunday, December 10

Bake some Christmas cookies to donate, buy some to enjoy, or both!
Be on the lookout for more details in November.



REST STOP

REST STOP is a Chester UMC after school program designed to provide rest and encouragement to at-risk youth from Thomas Dale High School. We’re off to a great start for the new school year! We have a faithful team of six volunteers and seven kids who are regularly attending. We enjoy 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? If you are willing to provide a light snack supper for 12-14 people (hotdogs, sloppy joes, pizza, spaghetti, etc.) call Susan for details.

- Make a check payable to CUMC, (memo: Rest Stop) to help cover our small expenses including gas for the church bus.
- Contact REST STOP Team Leader Susan Petrey, (804) 938-5396, for more information or to volunteer.

BACKPACK MINISTRY



The Backpack Ministry experienced a night of blessings on September 12th at a meeting of Woodman Life Organization, Chapter 159. Carolyn Landis, Bill and I attended the meeting, enjoyed a wonderful dinner, and shared with them about the backpack ministry at Chester UMC. We were then delighted and amazed to receive a bounty of food items and a cash donation for our ministry. They also did the hands-on project of packing 25 bags for delivery to C.C. Wells Elementary School. What an incredible and generous gift! We are so thankful for their gifts that enable us to serve this group of children who are food insecure.. A special thank you to Rick Alderson, president of Chapter 159, and to Stacey Ferrer, who did ALL the shopping!

We appreciate all who participate in this ministry with us – those who donate financially and those who donate food items. The need is ongoing and can only be met with the help of others, so thank you in advance for all the ways in which you help.

Karen Comer



FRESH START

Join the Fresh Start Sunday School Class in study, fellowship, and service!

Through October 15: What does Jesus want to know about us? Jesus was fond of asking questions, many of which cut right to the heart of what it means to be human. Why are you terrified? What do you live for? Who do you say that I am? In *Questions Jesus Asked*, author Magrey deVega explores six of the most provocative questions Jesus posed to others and guides us in answering them for ourselves. Asking these questions takes courage. Not only do they reveal what Jesus really cares about, they open a window into our hearts. We all have questions for God, but growth happens when we turn things around and ask what Jesus wants to know about us. When we dare to raise them, these questions bring us a fuller appreciation for the wisdom, power, and presence of God in our lives. Are you willing to step out in faith? Are you ready to answer the questions Jesus asked?

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 stories and parables.

The Fresh Start Class meets every Sunday morning at 9:45 AM in room 221 (at the top of the "old" stairway). Visitors and new members are always welcome. Call Susan Petrey, (804) 938-5396, for more information.

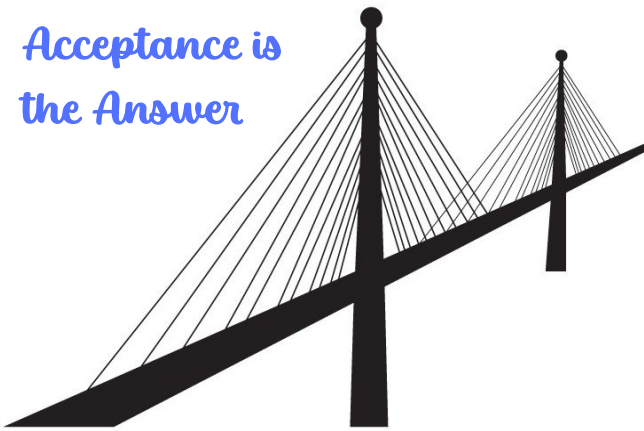
BRIDGE BUILDERS

"Do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your God" ~Micah 6:8

WHAT IS BRIDGE BUILDERS?

We are a small group that formed during the pandemic to study and pray about social injustices. Over time, we realized that God was calling us to act upon our dismay and frustrations by getting out in the community to make a positive impact. Today, we have a **Jail Ministry** with the Chesterfield County HARP (Helping Addicts Recover Progressively) program. Volunteers go twice a month, on the 2nd & 4th Monday, and meet with men using the study book, *Breathing Underwater: A Spiritual Guide to the Twelve Steps*, by Richard Rohr. The men have shared their joys, sorrows, and dreams with us. They've also shared their talents such as poetry, music, songs and stories. They have enriched our lives as we walk humbly with God and with them on their faith journey. Bridge Builders will continue reaching out to the community, bringing people together, and pursuing *Acceptance* and *Unity*.

Acceptance is
the Answer



We invite you to join us as we **Build** relationships in our community by fostering understanding and appreciation of our differences.

Other ways you can support this ministry: pray for the men in the HARP program, become a pen pal, provide snacks & books, and pray for those going into the jail ministering to these men.

Upcoming Bridge Builder Meetings: October 22 & November 19, 12:15 PM, Room 116.

POC Maureen Coker: (Coker@mcoker2003@comcast.net)

RISE AGAINST HUNGER 2023

On August 20, Chester United Methodist Church participated in a Rise Against Hunger meal packing event. About **100 volunteers** packed **over 10,000 meals** that day!

Providing meals is one of the ways Rise Against Hunger empowers communities, and we are proud to partner with them in this endeavor. **Thank you** to everyone who helped!

SUPPLIES FOR VETERANS

Throughout the month of October we're collecting the following supplies for Veterans at McGuire Hospital:

- Inexpensive shower shoes in men's sizes 6-12
- Men's size medium sweatsuits (matching crewneck and pants. No hoodies or zippers.)
- Men's boxer brief style underwear, size medium

Wal Mart is a good place to find these items.

Please deliver to the Missions Closet anytime before **November 5**.

Thank you!

Barbara MacIntyre (telluwhatbarbara@aim.com)



October Birthdays

October 1

Theodore Ewalt
Pat Ladlee
Silvia McCarney
Sue Thompson

October 2

Johnnie Davis
Ophelia Ewalt
Eric Houglan
Ashley Pospahala
John Price

October 3

Celia Anderson
Alex Jackson
Jennifer Mauro

October 4

Reagan Biedler
Andrew Patterson
Douglas Pawluk
Norman Smith
Mary Watson

October 5

Mollie Bess
Michael Watkins

October 6

Russell Chadwick
Maureen Coker
Geoffrey LeSueur
Robin Martin

October 7

Aaron Beck
Kendall McCormack
Karen Mueller
Molly Stroupe
Karen Waring
Clayton Williams

October 8

Marilyn Baxter
Monica Brandenburg
Amy Brick
Oscar Lamas
Melissa Logsdon
Pat Pospahala
Ward Shelton
Peggy Tunstall

October 9

Betty Desportes
Noah Hetrick
Jake Hewitt
Jeff Howe
Grayson Kelley

October 9 (cont'd)

Debbie Koller
Daryl Merryman
Jacob Miller
Scott Pugh
Doreen Stone

October 10

Amy Dodd
Donna Hawkins
Michelle Vaughan

October 11

Peggy Bishop
Wesley Fournelle

October 12

LuAnne Brubaker
Aaron Bryant
Lillian Daniels
Natalie Marshall
Rian Mey
Lauren Stewart
Brinkley Stone III
Alissa Watkins

October 13

Nathanial Akom
Robert Rhodes
Bob Talley

October 14

Reilly Fox
Debra Hubley
Derek Overstreet
Daniel Shaner

October 15

Sharon Buchanan
Barbara Dance
Craig Giegerich
Linda Large
Caroline Morgan
Ryan Parisi
Wayne Scruton
Kim Stone
Bodie Yandle

October 16

Phillip Buzzee
Bob Feind Sr
Bill Getch II
Betty Labin
Josiah Landis
Cami Leacock
George Sims

October 17

Kat Chatham
Michael Jernigan
Emily McLendon
Stephen Pospahala
Stephanie Shelton

October 18

Charley Angle
Hunter Baylor IV
Doug Fox

October 19

Geoffrey Fuller
Jill Hamilton
Cooper McCormack

October 20

Greg Daly
Trey Dicks
Chris Hobson
Corey Slaasted
Amy Woolard

October 21

Carol Cole
Sharon Hofmann
Drew Honn
Vickie Lojek
Grayson Matthews
Susan Payne
Daniel Roddy
Kaleigh Seward

October 22

Deborah Napolitano
Ben Welchel

October 23

Mickey Anderson
Casey Clark
Andrew Edwards
Marsha Hainley
Les Harper, Jr
John Rasnick, Jr
Tony Spadaccia
Dewey Taylor
Jean Wallace
Geoffrey Waugh
Lynda Woods
Brandon Yandle

October 24

Katie James
Courtney Talley
George Verghese
John York, Sr

October 25

Carson Lowder
Lisa Stone

October 26

Kimberly Hammersley
Jessica Hargraves
Alexandra Leigh
Logan Overstreet
Raymond Potter
Jeff Trimble

October 27

Pamela Armistead
Christine Hargraves
Caleb Hughes
Austin Kilbourne
Al Magnin, Jr
Sandy Sims
Wyatt Stanley
Sherry Zaunick

October 28

Pam Buyalos
Betty Martinko
Wyatt Sheppard
Lorraine Young

October 29

Patricia Black
Josh Deckert
Sandra Dunnivant
Taisha Garcia
Jordi Lamas
Michael Larkin
Pam Wilson
Wesley Yandle

October 30

Carter-Ball Bogese
Ivey Gilliam
Henry Heyer
Karmy Noblitt
Kai Simonsen
Christian Stroupe
David Thomas

October 31

Karen Davis
Jenni Deckert
Sharon Gilliatt
Tami Kilbourne
Josefa Wall

November Birthdays

November 1

Darlene Fox
Kim Herndon
Ashley Lewis
Marcia Logsdon
Olivia Nikles
Monica Swofford

November 2

Sharon Boroch
Cara Gilliatt
Drew Gilliatt
Pam Howe
Mary Perry
Don Schmidt
Jim Woolard Sr

November 3

Sarah Bain
Harold Crowder, Jr
Ben Fabian
Angela Jenkins
Charlotte Lang
Anroux Mey
Alexa Nixon
Lynda Richardson
Suzanne Rountree
Maureen Vilak

November 4

Ed Hopkins
Sam Jackson, Jr
Jimmy Willingham

November 5

Kristina Daugherty
Carly Johnson
Gordon Morris, II
Kent Yandle

November 6

Shawn Alexander
Jeff Blankenbecler
Ruth Crampton
Lis Dickinson
Mark Hatchett
Clint Kiebler
Davis Mick
Susie Sizemore
Jennifer Williams

November 7

Nicholas Johnson
Kyle Kirwan
Dan Lewis
Richard Marshall

November 8

Elissa Brummette
Marg Ferguson
NicoleFox
Mike Larew
Gena Lashley
Rohith Thomas

November 9

Amanda Hoffmann
Chelsea Mariani
Alexander Marshall
Quinn Morrison
Sara Stanfield

November 10

George Eapen, Jr
Ella Radford
Mark Sizemore
John Vasa

November 11

Kim Betz
Brian Canipe
George Patterson
Charlotte Walls

November 12

Jessica Jacka
Michael Sizemore

November 13

Blake Boyd
Skip Buyalos, Jr
Jessica Griffin
Dana Thomas
Julie Watson

November 14

John Daugherty
Susan Frank
Kaitlyn Jones
Molly O’Gorman
Andrew Pike

November 15

Andrew Carraway
Chip Cobb
Faryal Haq
Dean Hutchins
Chase Potvin

November 16

Braydon Bishop
Emerson Bishop
John Ferguson
Don J. Higgins
Noah Johnson

November 16 (cont’d)

Carolyn Landis
Christine Mick
Bonnie Moody

November 17

Taylor Allen
Wayne Banty
Jen Fournelle
Leslie Patton
Lincoln Roy
Sandy Stotesberry

November 18

Ruby Bishop
Lily Davis
Meghan Herrmann
Jeff Marlin
Avery Matthews
Brynn Matthews
Andrew Rivenbark

November 19

Sarah Bradshaw
Sharon Brick
Michael Cole
Kelly Corell
Eric Hodell
Christy Martin
Holly Scarborough
Zachary Williams
Keith Woods

November 20

Caden Flowers
Peyton Stone
Sam Henry Swofford

November 21

Amanda Rutledge

November 22

Bonnie Brown
Alexandra Hoffman
Chloe Jackson
Mikayla Jackson
Tre Jackson, III
Ricky Watkins

November 23

Ethan Decker
Joe Furr
Luke Hutchins
Kerry Martin
Tony Shores
Leslie Thysell

November 24

Cynthia Corley
Brooke Dicks
Wade Dishman
Mary Beth Johnson
Elizabeth Sibley

November 25

Gavin Bradley
Alyssa Burgess
Kate Lewis
Martha Miles
Chantay Poulsen
Jill Seal
Nick Young, Jr.

November 26

Bill Crump
Debbie Getch
Dustin Munchel
Debra Taylor

November 27

Bryan Amsel
Chad Buchanan
Karen Moore
Bill Rhea
Rachel Toon

November 28

Adan Ahlers
Elijah Eapen
Jacob Hobson
Stuart MacIntyre
Claudia Nagy
Tommy Petrey
Jeff Powell
Jennifer Watson
Scottie Yandle

November 29

Laurie Cobb
Steve Honn
Angie Lawhon
Raicheal Waterson

November 30

Susan Browder
Richard Chitwood, Jr.
Ruth Higgins
Matthew Hill
Silvie Leshen

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.



CHIMES articles may be submitted to assistant@chesterumc.org.

The deadline for submission to the **December/January Chimes is Wednesday, November 15.**

CHESTER UMC ONLINE RESOURCES

Website: www.chesterumc.org

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Daily Email News: Visit <http://eepurl.com/bV9Tv> to subscribe.

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Prayer Chain Email: Submit your name and email address to office@chesterumc.org with “Prayer Chain” in the subject line to subscribe.

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