

APRIL/MAY 2024

THE CHIMES

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



A Community in Christ
Chester United Methodist Church



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Fresh Start
Contemporary Worship
Sanctuary
8:30 AM

The Bridge
Southern Gospel Worship
Sanctuary
9:45 AM

Traditional Worship
Sanctuary
11:00 AM

Worship By Phone
804-768-9594
Anytime

Confirmation

A spiritual journey that began in February culminates with a Confirmation Service during Fresh Start (8:30 AM) worship on Sunday, April 7.

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April 27, 2024

**CHESTER UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

12132 Percival Street, Chester, Va. 23831

ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW

9 am - 3 pm

HOW TO REACH NEW PEOPLE

By Nathan Decker

“The gospel of peace is too good to keep to oneself.”

-Lailah Gifty Akita

At a recent Church Council meeting, our conversation drifted into the familiar waters of “why isn’t our church growing as fast as that other church.” I cautioned and qualified that my answer was not going to be fuzzy nor tactful. I answered, “Because we aren’t willing to do what they are doing: sharing our faith.” If we want to make disciples of Jesus to transform the world, we have to start sharing our faith. This is our primary mission as a people of God.



As followers of Jesus we are outstanding at doing a lot. We excel in charity, giving of ourselves financially to others. We worship with passion and fervor. We shine in reading the Bible and faith-based studies about life. We are skilled at caring for the sick and ill among us with prayers and visits. What we don’t do well is talk about our faith openly. If you ask most church going people about their faith journey, you get a litany of attendance at various church communities with membership details, serving on various committees, etc. Take out the word church and replace it with any other social group, and it isn’t much different. I think God called us to more than membership. We were called to be disciples. He said, “Follow me and I’ll teach you how to fish for people.”

We need to share what we’ve experienced in Jesus. Church from the outside looking in often looks like a castle fortress with our massive structures, insider language, lack of signage, and locked doors. Those who haven’t had a good experience with faith imagine a demonic dragon of judgment, hostility, political agendas, and unwavering traditionalism. They see the church as an ancient relic that is not offering anything worthwhile and could possibly be detrimental to society as a whole. Worse, in crisis mode, the church often acts like the Hebrews in the wilderness, looking back to the enslavement of Egypt instead of forward to the promised land. We worry about budgets, carpet stains, and keeping things museum-kept rather than reaching out to those in need of Christ’s love.

To overcome this, we have to intentionally begin making new relationships in the community. No one will hear the invitation to Christ unless they encounter his love in you. Find ways to connect. God has given you interests, and other humans have those. Because of my own hobbies and interests, I love encountered runners, motorcyclists, those with tattoos, woodworkers, and the list goes on. God gave you a list and that equips you to begin making new relationships every day.

We have to intentionally make new *relationships* and wait for the *Spirit’s cue*. Somewhere in the many days and weeks of conversation you’ll have an opportunity to be proud of what the church is doing or share how God has made a difference in your life. Once you start listening for these, you’ll be surprised at how often they come up. Boldly share unafraid. If the person shrinks back, then you know it’s not the time to invite. On the other hand, if the person seems interested, invite them.

Relationships, Spirit’s cue, Invitation. Invite them to more than just worship. Invite them to a small group. Invite them to a mission project. Often worship is a “harder” sell than the many ministries that we do to impact our community. This April, I’ll be leading a class on “How to Reach New People.” Reading the book, Get Their Name, by Farr, Kotan, and Anderson; we will share how God has been active in our lives recently. For so many of us, this is hard to answer. We’ll also discuss the questions that people new to the faith are asking: “Why God? Why Church? Why Chester UMC? We’ll reach out and make disciples of Jesus.

Begin praying. God is doing so many great things for us at Chester UMC. How will you share your faith? How will you reach new people?

“As you are going, make disciples of all nations...”

-Matthew 28:19a

MUSIC NOTES

Thank you to everyone for your faithful support of our Easter musical, "Come to the Cross and Remember." Please continue to share the videos from the service to bless your online friends!

Our annual Afternoon Tea is scheduled for Saturday, April 13, and it is already sold out! This fundraiser supports our music ministry and our choir tour. If you didn't get a ticket but would like to make a donation to our upcoming trip, please mark your gift with "Choir Tour" on the memo line.

Our Choir Tour takes place June 14-19. There are still a few seats available if you'd like to tag along as a roadie! Watch the next Chimes and the bulletin for our itinerary. We will be in the Pigeon Forge, TN, area and Blacksburg, VA. Our home concert will be held on Sunday, June 9, during morning worship.

Don't miss CUMC's own Angelo Galarza making his Swift Creek Mill Theater debut in "Altar Boyz," March 23 through April 20. This is a foot-stomping, rafter-raising musical comedy about a fictitious Christian boy band on the last night of their national "Raise the Praise" tour. The Boyz are five all-singing, all-dancing heartthrobs from Ohio: Matthew, Mark, Luke, Juan and Abraham.

"Sing" - cereley,

Joshua Wortham, Minister of Music



FAMILY MINISTRY



Wow!! Time flies quickly when you're having fun. Our KIDZ ZONE Ministry team has been really busy. We have been going nonstop planning events, outreaches, and mentoring our children,

Our KIDZ ZONE leaders, Darlene Emerson, Debbie Freed, Laura Hougland, Dawn York, and I have partnered with parents to lead their children by mentoring them outside of church. Each child has been paired with one of our KIDZ ZONE leaders to build relationships, to grow spiritually and to know that they are important in this church and in our community.

In the last few months, our Family Ministry has had a successful Family Feud night in January, Parent Night Out in February with 18 children from our community, and Game Night in March. We are also helping our 5th & 6th graders transition to Youth Group in the fall by having 5th/6th grade game nights in January and March.

Our Youth Group has been busy as well. In the last few months, the teens have played Bingo with the residents at Dunlop House, were part of the outreach for Parent Night Out, made valentine's day cards for veterans, created posters for the suicide prevention walk, and took part in an amazing Egg Hunt outreach.

We are looking forward to Confirmation Sunday on April 7, Children's Service on April 14, Youth Sunday on April 28, Graduation Sunday on May 5, and VBS that will be held in June.

There are many ways for you to get involved in our KIDZ ZONE Ministry and Youth Ministry. From planning events and participating in outreaches, to being involved in Sunday School or Youth group meetings, we would be happy if you could join us.

God is doing amazing work in our Family Ministries area. The scripture that comes to my mind is Psalm 34:8, "Taste and see that the LORD is good; How blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!"

In Christ,

Juliana Paradie
Family Ministries Director

PRESCHOOL



Our preschool has been busy preparing for and learning all about Read Across America Week and our annual Dr. Seuss party! The children sang nursery rhymes and enjoyed crafts and lunch with their families! We're gearing up for an exciting Easter celebration and zoo field trip in April!

Thanks to all who donated for our scholarship fundraiser! You blew us away with your support and love!

For the 2024-2025 school year, we are seeking energetic, creative, confident, and loving teachers and assistants. Resumes may be sent to preschool@chesterumc.org.

Whitney Graham
CUMCPS Director
(804) 748-2275
preschool@chesterumc.org





CONFIRMANDS' MISSION PROJECT: BACKPACK MINISTRY

The 2024 Confirmation Class has chosen the Backpack Ministry as their mission project. The Backpack Ministry provides food for the weekends for students at two local elementary schools who are experiencing food insecurity.

Let's support this worthy cause by donating food items to the bin in the Missions Closet. Suggested items include: Pop Tarts, granola bars, mac & cheese, peanut butter, Vienna Sausages, canned pasta/ravioli, fruit cups, applesauce cups, instant oatmeal, and canned chicken/tuna.

Please donate by April 6. At that time the Confirmands will organize and pack meals for delivery.

POC: Jennifer Brame (jrbrooksiee@gmail.com)

Please register using the QR code or clicking here:

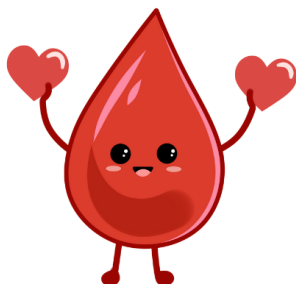
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdtkbinVpsmp6oRrgd5RnYBiQVNfaPz8ndVZk3g>

Chester UMC Men: BOLO

If you are seeking to give and receive fellowship, mentorship, service to church and community, and to study the word of God with other men, then **Be On The Lookout** for upcoming news regarding our United Methodist Men!

Remember that "iron sharpens iron." (Proverbs 27:17)
Be blessed and be a blessing to others!

POC: Brion Seward (1bseward@comcast.net)



Blood Drive Wednesday, May 8, 2024

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 office (804-748-6006) if you need assistance.

Thankyou to the 27 people who donated in February, impacting up to 81 lives!

SUNDAY SMALL GROUPS

KIDZ ZONE (Children's Sunday School) 9:45 AM. Pre-K (Rm. 107); Grades K-5 (Rm. 206). POC: Juliana Paradie (julianaparadie@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, Grades 6-12. POC: Juliana Paradie (julianaparadie@chesterumc.org)

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

Bridge Builders 12:15 PM, Room 116, 2nd Sundays of the month. **Next meetings April 14 and May 12.** POC: Maureen Coker (mcoker2003@comcast.net)

Middle & High School Youth Meetings Sundays, 4:00 PM, Annex Loft. For grades 6-12. POC: Juliana Paradie (julianaparadie@chesterumc.org)

OTHER SMALL GROUPS

Faith Keepers Women's Prayer Group Mondays, 9:00 AM at Grants Coffee Co. (11884 Chester Village DR).
POC: Sherri Morris (smorris787@aim.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)

Contemplative Prayer Group Tuesdays, 11:00 AM, at Trinity UMC. Read scripture, focus, pray, chat, connect with God. POC: Lisa Stanfield: lisajostanfield@gmail.com

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 Choir for adults Wednesdays, 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: Gordon Morris (gordo15458@aim.com)

Women's Fellowship Luncheon 1:30 PM, 3rd Thursdays at a local restaurant. Next luncheon Thursday, April 18, location TBA. RSVP by Monday, April 15. 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. **Next meeting April 4.** 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 Mondays, 6:00 PM, Music Suite. For 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)

Sueños: Health and Safety for Latino Families 1st Friday of each month, 6:00 - 8:30 PM in the fellowship hall. A variety of topics related to health and safety, as well as food from different regions, is presented at each gathering. Childcare provided. POC: Chad Beck (chadbeck@chesterumc.org)

Sueños: ESL (English as a Second Language) Classes Tuesday and Thursday, 7:00-8:30 PM. Rooms 205, 214, and 226. POC: Pastor Chad Beck (chadbeck@chesterumc.org)

Kidz Zone Night: Meets 3rd Saturday of each month at 6:00 PM. Join us for a variety of fun activities! POC: Charlotte Brummette (Charl208@yahoo.com / 804 833-1174)

VBS 2024: HERO HOTLINE!

Don't miss out on all the fun! Register today!

June 24 - 28

9 AM- 12 PM

For children Pre-K through Grade 5

Register here: <https://chester-umc.mycokesburyvbs.com/register-child>



POC: Juliana Paradie
julianaparadie@chesterumc.org



REST STOP

REST STOP is a Chester UMC after school program designed to provide rest and encouragement for at-risk youth from Thomas Dale High School. In March we baked homemade cookies and delivered them to the Chester Fire Station, had a discussion about our perceptions and being open to understanding one another, packed eggs for the CUMC Easter Egg Hunt, had our own Easter egg hunt, and roasted hot dogs and cooked s'mores during an afternoon on the Annex lawn. 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 team is already assembled to support this ministry, but you are encouraged to join the effort! Call Susan to volunteer or to sign up to provide a meal. 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.

STEPHEN MINISTRY MUSINGS

By Beth Powner

So, is anything new with our Stephen Ministry program? Yes! Since the beginning of the year, six people in our congregation have been very busy. They've been reading their training manuals, listening to their leaders talk about subjects that are vital to their caring ministry, and probably the most fun part: they have been role playing. One minute they may be a Stephen Minister, the next minute a care receiver. What better way to learn than to put themselves right into a tough situation! It's a great learning tool, and also a really fun and funny part of the training. Between January and May they will spend 50 hours in training, which is no small feat! Some of the topics covered are Feelings: Yours, Mine and Ours, The Art of Listening, Assertiveness, Maintaining Boundaries, Confidentiality, and Crisis Theory and Practice, to name only a few. With lot of hard work and dedication, each one of them will become the hands and feet of Jesus as they minister to hurting people in our congregation. They will finish their training in May and be commissioned as Stephen Ministers at CUMC. We are so lucky to add these six individuals to our already amazing group of Stephen Ministers!



A huge thank you to all six and to their leaders: Steve Osborne, Marg Kutz, Vince D'Agostino, and Beth Stewart.



Chester UMC's Stephen Ministers in Training

Front Row, Left to Right: Beth VanDenBerg, Linda Mottley, Pat Baake

Back Row, Left to Right: Tory Powner, Sandy Sims, Lynn Crump

Please call Vince D'Agostino at 804-461-8529 for more information about Stephen Ministry.

STEWARDSHIP

Your Financial Legacy

It's TAX Time!!! Did you know you can reduce your heirs' tax burden by designating Chester UMC as the beneficiary of some of your assets? Say you have \$50K in cash and \$50K in a traditional IRA. If you leave the IRA to a loved one, they will owe taxes on that amount. If you leave the IRA to Chester UMC, the church will receive your gift tax-free. Then your \$50K in cash could be gifted to your loved one via your will and they could receive it tax-free.

Take the time to talk with your document preparer and/or financial planner and memorialize your financial legacy for Chester UMC. It will cost you little now, but have a life changing impact on others. If you'd like to talk with someone at the church about several planned giving options, please contact Pastor Nathan at (804) 748-6006 or nathandecker@chesterumc.org.

Peace be with you,

Bryon and Josefa Wall, Stewardship Co-Chairpersons



THANK YOU NOTES

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your many expressions of love and sympathy sent through your prayers, calls, cards, food, and flowers after the passing of my husband, Steve.

Sincerely, Sharon Gilliatt and Family

In February CUMC did a wonderful thing! I'm so proud to say that we took 344 Valentine cards to veterans in McGuire's Hospital and Sitter-Barfoot Veterans Care Center along with 13 packages of men's briefs and various greeting cards for veterans to send out. That's awesome! Thank you for remembering our veterans.

We took Easter/Happy Spring cards in March.

From Barbara MacIntyre

The Henry family sincerely appreciates the many cards and gifts given in Susan's memory.

From Marshall Henry

FRESH START

Beginning April 7—Entering the Passion of Jesus by Amy-Jill Levine--Jesus' final days were full of risk. Every move he made was filled with anticipation, danger, and the potential for great loss or great reward. Jesus risked his reputation when he entered Jerusalem in a victory parade. He risked his life when he dared to teach in the Temple. His followers risked everything when they left behind their homes, or anointed him with costly perfume. We take risks as we read and re-read these stories, finding new meanings and new challenges. In *Entering the Passion of Jesus*, author, professor, and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the Passion story. She shows us how the text raises ethical and spiritual questions for the reader, and how we all face risk in our Christian experience.

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



Sunday, April 7, Following 11:00AM Worship in Davis Fellowship Hall

It's that thyme of year! Do you have more seeds or pots than you can use? Are you downsizing your garden or house plants? Bring your extras, share your knowledge, and maybe talk a little dirt. If you don't have anything to share and want to start a garden or try to grow a houseplant, please join us. We have plenty to share!

POC: Katey McCarney Petrey (804) 402-0084

KATE KELLEY EWALT BENCH DEDICATION

Sunday, March 17, following 11:00 AM worship, we dedicated the new park bench outside the Welcome Center in memory of Kate Kelley Ewalt, daughter of Mike and Mindy Kelley and lifelong member of Chester UMC. Mindy shared memories of her daughter, Pastor Nathan said a blessing, and the sun came out from the clouds just as the choir began to sing.



CARDS FOR VETERANS FOR MEMORIAL DAY

As we remember and honor service members who have died in military service to our nation, let's also acknowledge our veterans at the Richmond VA Medical Center and Sitter & Barfoot Veterans Care Center with greeting cards. You may write things like "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. **Cards are due Sunday, May 19.** Thank you for your caring cards and notes! POC: Barbara MacIntyre (telluwhatbarbara@aim.com)



NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

We'll soon begin compiling a new Chester UMC pictorial directory and it won't be complete without your photo!

If you have a recent photo, send it to Mary Musselwhite at softshl1@gmail.com. Please indicate (left to right) the names of all in the photo.

If you prefer to have a photo taken for the directory, a photographer will be available in Davis Fellowship Hall between worship services on **April 7 and 14**.

Please note that submitting a photo or having your photo taken for the directory implies consent to have your photo published in the directory, which will be distributed to members of the congregation. Thank you!



MEDICAL LENDING CLOSET

Are you or a loved one experiencing a change in mobility, perhaps due to illness or surgery? Thinking about buying a walker but want to try one out first? Or maybe you have a guest visiting who could enjoy more sight-seeing if they had a wheelchair available?



The Chester UMC Medical Lending Closet may have the perfect solution for you! It's completely free, and there is no time limit for borrowing items. Inventory varies because we rely on donations, but we typically have wheelchairs, walkers, walking canes, bedside commodes, knee scooters, and toilet seat risers.

We also often have available some consumable items such as incontinence products. The Medical Lending Closet is open Monday – Thursday, 8 AM – 2 PM.

If you have a medical device in good, clean condition that you no longer need, please consider donating it so we can continue to be a blessing to others.

Save the Date!

August 23 - August 31, 2024

Let's go share God's love and grace with our community!

Chester UMC is returning to the Chesterfield County Fair to sell and take tickets! Look for sign-up opportunities to be posted soon as many volunteers will be needed for this great fundraising opportunity for our church.

POC Stacey Ferrer (ssfva@comcast.net)



GRADUATE RECOGNITION



Sunday, May 5, 8:30 AM Fresh Start Worship Service

Whether you're graduating from high school, college, trade school, secondary education, or any other type of program, we want to recognize your accomplishment! Please sign up in the Sunday pew pad or email Juliana Paradie (julianaparadie@chesterumc.org). Please send along a couple of photographs as well, **no later than April 21**, so we can include you in the PowerPoint presentation. Thank you, and congratulations to all our graduates!

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:.....Whitney Graham (preschool@chesterumc.org)
Nursery Staff:Carla Adams, Samantha Garcia
Office Manager:Michelle Couvillion (office@chesterumc.org)
Office Assistant:.....Sally Maxwell (assistant@chesterumc.org)

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Steve Gilliatt

Marshall Henry, III
Betty Labin
Wayne and Ginny Virag
Steven Satterwaite
Bill and Karen Comer
Joe and Mary Ann Pratt
Jimmy and Linda Willingham
Henry and Rebecca Lang
Dennis Conrad
Lanier L. Korsmeyer and Janet L. Blair
Janis Hargrave
Lee and Louise Ross
Connie Miltenberger
Douglas Gilliatt – Bereavement Fund
Ruth Kymmell – Bereavement Fund
Sue Matthews
Don and Pat Pospahala
George and Darlene Emerson
Robert and Doreen Cardigan, Retiree Group

In Memory of Susan Henry

All donations given in Susan's name, not specified to a certain fund, will be donated to the Endowment Fund per the family's wishes.

Skip and Pam Buyalos
Janis Hargrave
William R. and Jane M. Sejen
Jim Dyson
Don and Pat Pospahala
George and Darlene Emerson
Tam and Bonnie Moody
Robert and Alanna Graboyes

In Memory of Susan Henry (continued)

Barbara Goodwyn
Burriss Workman
Gibbons and Heather Sloan
Pamela D. Dameron
Betty Labin
Wayne and Ginny Virag
Anne G. Cheatham
Clauda Adams
Joseph and Susanne Hillier
Marke and Jean Holt, III
Melba R. Brodie - Endowment
Sam Parsons
Shelby Porter
Michael and Elisabeth Benchich and Family
Betty P. Mann
Tom and Lynn McHugh - Music
"Brandermill Woods Security Team - Music
Henry and Becky Lang - Music
Wayne and Ginger Chadwick – Stephen Ministry
John and Pam Early – Stephen Ministry
Tim and Beth Stewart – Stephen Ministry
"Village Book Club Members (#3434) – Stephen Ministry
Vince and Linda D'Agostino – Stephen Ministry
Wayne and Ann Stuart – Rest Stop

In Memory of Judy Dyson

Jim Dyson

In Memory of George Purciville Emerson, Sr.

Betty Labin

In Memory of John Cobgill (Barbara Dance's Brother)

Seekers Sunday School Class

NEW MEMBER

Renee Falzone joined by reaffirmation of faith on Sunday, March 17.
We extend a warm welcome to Renee!



Scan the QR code or text the word "Connect" to (804) 979-2922 to join Chester UMC's texting service.

It's a great way to stay informed about the latest happenings at Chester UMC!

ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW

Saturday, April 27, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM in Davis Fellowship Hall

See handmade crafts from Chester UMC crafters and the local community. Pick up a few Mother's Day gifts while you browse. Breakfast and lunch items will be served.

If you or someone you know would like to be a vendor, only a few outdoor spaces remain. Please contact Katey McCarney at (804) 402-0084 or visit www.chesterumc.org.

SUEÑOS

The Sueños ministry is going strong! We have a dedicated team of volunteers for ESL classes, but more helping hands would be appreciated. If you'd like to volunteer or provide food for our students, please contact Lynn Crump at (804) 513-0260 or lynncrumppla@gmail.com.

Every first Friday we gather for dinner and a presentation regarding health and safety. In March, Gladys Garcia from the Community Tax Project spoke about taxes and Lillian Escobar prepared delicious enchiladas Guatemaltecas. We celebrated birthdays, and, as always, concluded the evening with a brief devotional. On April 5, we'll welcome Helen González and Yomara McMiller from Bon Secours to share information about the Care-A-Van mobile health clinic.

Please prayerfully consider ways in which we can welcome those who participate in the Sueños ministry into the life of Chester UMC.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (UMW) is to "be 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 1 (this is not a joke!) at 7:00 PM in Room 205. Kandy Baker will lead us in an activity to cut and tie throw blankets for Tyler's Retreat. Bring \$10 to cover the cost of materials and good fabric scissors if you have them. Call Susan Petrey for details.

The Ada Mae Bookman Fellowship will meet April 11, at 10:30 AM in room 226. Hilah Stiles will regale us with some of the joys of her time in Japan and how she brought those memories to share with local children of Chester. Any and all women of the church are invited to join us. Call Martha Miles, 748-5476, for details.

The Jean Craig Fellowship will meet on Monday, May 6, at 7:00 PM in Room 205. We will put together Birthday Cake Kits for our CUMC food pantry. Call Susan Petrey for details.

The Ada Mae Bookman Fellowship will meet Thursday, May 9, for an informal luncheon. Call Martha Miles, 748-5476, for details.

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



April Birthdays

April 1

Hunter Beazley, Jr.
Elaine Biedler
Ben Lashley
Carol Ray

April 2

Malcolm Stone

April 3

Don Clark
Amy Tirrell
Jake Zimmerman

April 4

Shayna Barnes
Tyler Dougherty
Courtney Farrell
Patrick Rhea
Reed Willingham

April 5

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

April 6

Adam Aslan
Kathy Baker
Lara Howe
Daniel Spadaccia
Tyler Vaughn

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
Alexandria Paradie
Savanna Schaffer
Evan Slaasted
Lisa Zoller

April 10

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

April 11

Megan Carson
Merlin Mitchell
R.D. Nixon
Ryan Patton
Donald Tipton

April 12

Lisa Irving
Carter Keffer
Maddox Moore
Billy Vaughn

April 13

Jackson Angle
Vince D'Agostino
Stephen Kirtley
Ben Patton
Anna Thomas
Ray Trevillian

April 14

Ashley Beckner
Ian Drewry
Jim Harris
Kris Spadaccia

April 15

Justin Blankenbecler
Clarence Curtis III
Maggie Davis
Don Farr
Jeremy Goodman
Rakell Houston
Ryan Moore
Donna Nunery
Jude Squires

April 16

Teresa Blaylock
William Coghill
Penny McCulloch
Matthew McHugh
Kelly Woodard

April 17

Aaron Anderson
Ruth Copa
Greg Pennington

April 18

Anne McQueen
Cassidy Roy
Anna Thysell

April 19

Kate Comer
June Hopkins
Walt Stone

April 20

Mark Bradley
Mitchell Kessinger
Carol Koon
Ann Roper

April 21

Adam Daugherty
Kathy 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

Bella Brummette
Catherine Castleberry
Bob Davis
Bruce Johnson
Bryan Manuel
Tam Moody

April 24

Sue Coleman
Liz Denby
Ileen Helm
Bob Huffman
Dennis Lipscomb
Michael Meuller
John D. Phillips

April 25

Ava Gray
L.A. Ruffin III
Jennifer Smith

April 26

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

April 27

Pastor Chad Beck
Ava Brummette
Ben Comer
Julius Paradie
Elyse Snow
Meghan Stewart-Morgan
Parker Stone

April 28

Scott Akom
Gypsy Cook
Miranda Grave
David Mann

April 29

Charlene Holmes
Don Sexton
Sarah Walls
Terri Watson
Steve Yuoconis

April 30

Beth Comer
Brad Lenz
Ruth Lucy
Stacey Partin
Erin Roberts
Liz Sarver
Austin Voros



May Birthdays

May 1

Janet Bradley
David Davis
Timothy Ellis
Clara Gestwick
Regan Miller
Evan Moody
Jack Swofford

May 2

Robert Bradford
Aubrey Gibson
Katie Lewis
Carter McCants
Rita Stewart
Summer Vaughn

May 3

Matthew James
Rev. Margaret Kutz
Vivian Wilkes

May 4

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

May 5

Dean Bodenhorn
Nick 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
Maeve Smith
Hilah Stiles
Barbara Yandle

May 7

Fran Barnes
Allison Faucette

May 7 (continued)

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

May 8

Brandon Gestwick
Linda Harper
Luka Seal

May 9

Addie Fuller
Phillip Glass
Mallory Hall
George Heyer
Scarlett Heyer
Abigail Martin
BobbieMorrissette

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
June Gilliam
David Kirtley
Troy Potvin

May 14

David Coker
Joan Gilpin
Debra Gruschow
Jason Hall

May 15

Mindy Kelley
Brooke Kiebler
Carey Parisi
Peyton Radford
Ray Smith
Isabella Solaimani
Brandon Williamson

May 15

Angelina Bartlett
Anabel Bittenbender
Lloyd Bradshaw, Jr.
Alexa Deckert
Elizabeth Ford
Lauren Townsend
Pat Wood

May 16

Zachary Jacka
Jacob LeSeur
Ashley Willis

May 17

Rachel Bowman
Doug Helm, Sr.
Corey Paradie

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 III

May 21

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

May 22

James Asbury, Jr.
Diane Coghill
Blakely James
Terri Moody
Wanda Reese
Robert Vilak, Jr.

May 23

Amy Chitwood
Ron Dombrowski
Bobby Henderson
Richard Parisi
Robert Simmons, Jr.

May 24

Richard Beazley, Jr.
Martha Floyd
Paige Smith

May 25

Donna Elbon
Daniel Morrison
Robert Napolitano III
Brian Radford
Richard Shoff

May 26

Danny Baylor
Jeff Gaffney
Stan Hargraves
Joshua Hetrick
Sue Latta
Jamie Strawn II
Charles Williams

May 27

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

May 28

Logan Fields
Jennifer Honn
Robert Napolitano
Ron 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

Jack 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 your visit in advance.

HOLIDAY CLOSURES: The church office will be closed Monday, April 1, and Monday, May 27.



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

The deadline for submission to the **June/July Chimes is Wednesday, May 15**

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