



January 12, 2025 – 9:45 AM

**WORSHIP MUSIC**

Goodbye, World, Goodbye  
Standing in the Need of Prayer  
I Feel Like Traveling On

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

Safe Within Your Arms  
He Never Failed Me Yet  
*Peyton Lassiter*

**SCRIPTURE**

Isaiah 43:1-7 NRSV  
Matthew 3:13-17 NRSV

**MESSAGE**

Signs of Jesus’ Baptism  
*Rev. Dr. Ed Garrett*

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

**CUMC STAFF DIRECTORY**

Ministers .....	All Disciples of the Congregation
Lead Pastor: Nathan Decker .....	<a href="mailto:nathandecker@chesterumc.org">nathandecker@chesterumc.org</a>
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Nursery Specialists.....	Carla Adams, Morgan Hall
MS & HS Youth Ministry (Emily Smith and Jessica Hargraves).....	<a href="mailto:youthleaders@chesterumc.org">youthleaders@chesterumc.org</a>
Preschool Director: Whitney Graham.....	<a href="mailto:preschool@chesterumc.org">preschool@chesterumc.org</a>



*A Community in Christ*

**Chester United Methodist Church**

*Embrace – Love - Impact*

12132 Percival Street, Chester, Virginia 23831 \* Church: (804) 748-6006  
Web Site: [www.chesterumc.org](http://www.chesterumc.org) \* *A Stephen Ministry Congregation*



**FRESH START SERVICE**  
January 12, 2025—8:30 AM



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

**WORSHIP MUSIC**

What a Friend  
We Believe  
Here I Am to Worship

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

Safe Within Your Arms  
He Never Failed Me Yet  
*Peyton Lassiter*

**SCRIPTURE**

Isaiah 43:1-7 NRSV  
Matthew 3:13-17 NRSV

**MESSAGE**

Signs of Jesus' Baptism  
*Rev. Dr. Ed Garrett*

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

**January 12, 2025**

**A Service of Worship and Praise**

**Baptism of  
the Lord**

**11:00 AM**

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Welcome, Announcements, and Greeting Our Neighbors

Prelude

*Poor, Wayfaring Stranger*

Handbells  
Alex Keyahas, bass

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

Don Schmidt, Liturgist

Leader: God says: Look! See my chosen servant, the One in whom I utterly delight;

**People: I have placed my Spirit on him, he will bring true justice to the nations.**

Leader: When Jesus was baptized, the heavens opened up, and Spirit came down like a dove; and there was a voice from heaven saying:

**People: "This is my dearly loved Son, with whom I am delighted."**

Leader: The joy of the Lord be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

\* Opening Prayer

**Gracious and Loving God, we come together at the beginning of this new year to remember your goodness and faithfulness to us in the past, especially in difficult times of change and challenge. Refresh us in our commitment to be faithful followers of our baptism covenant, particularly to reach out to others. We raise our voice in praise of Jesus' Baptism. In His name we pray. Amen**

\* Hymn No. 98

*To God Be the Glory*

\* Affirmation of Faith No. 884

\* Gloria Patri No. 70

**Glory be to the father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

Special Music

*He Never Failed Me Yet*

Peyton Lassiter

Why We Give

Offertory *Safe Within Your Arms* Peyton Lassiter

\* 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 and The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

Hymn No. 454 *Open My Eyes, That I May See*

Scripture *Isaiah 43:1-3a* NRSV  
*Matthew 3:13-17*

Message *Signs of Jesus' Baptism* Rev. Dr. Ed Garrett

Baptismal Remembrance Anthem *Come to the Water* Chancel Choir

\* Hymn No. 140 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

\* Benediction

\* Choral Amen Chancel Choir

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

<sup>1</sup><https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/follow-me/epiphany-baptism-of-the-lord-year-b-lectionary-planning-notes/epiphany-baptism-of-the-lord-year-b-liturgical-resources>

## Calendar

## *January 12 – January 19, 2025*

### **Today: Sunday, January 12**

- 8:15 AM Nursery until 12:00 PM
- 8:30 AM Fresh Start Worship-DFH
- 9:45 AM Bridge Worship -Sanctuary  
Sun Sch PreK-107  
Sun Sch Gr K-5-206  
Adult SS-Variou  
Youth Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditions Worship-  
Sanctuary
- 12:00 PM Small Group Leaders  
Lunch-DFH
- 12:15 PM Bridge Builders- 116
- 2:00 PM Flood Relief Meeting-213
- 4:00 PM Youth Activity- Annex

### **Monday: January 13**

- 6:30 PM Boy Scouts- DFH
- 7:00 PM Jean Craig Fellowship -205
- 7:00 PM Music Reading- Music Ste

### **Tuesday: January 14**

- 10:30 AM Joy Singers
- 3:00 PM Rest Stop- Annex
- 7:00 PM Church Council-213
- 7:00 PM ESL- 205, 214, 221, 226

### **Wednesday: January 15**

- 12:00 PM Bulletin/ Chimes Deadline
- 5:45 PM Handbell Choir- Music Ste
- 5:45 PM Kidz Zone & Youth Bible  
Study- Trinity UMC
- 6:00 PM Cub Scouts- 226
- 6:30 PM Girl Scout Srvc Unit- DFH
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir- Music Ste

### **Thursday: January 16**

- 11:30 AM Women's Luncheon-  
Carini's Italian Restaurant
- 12:30 PM Precious Memories Widow  
& Widower- Trinity UMC
- 1:30 PM Prayer Shawl- Parlor
- 7:00 PM ESL- 205, 214, 221, 226

### **Friday: January 17**

- 9:30 AM Feed More Distribution-  
Greenleigh Community

### **Saturday: January 18**

- 6:00 PM Community Movie- DFH

### **Next Sunday: January 19**

- 8:15 AM Nursery until 12 PM
- 8:30 AM Fresh Start Worship- DFH
- 9:45 AM Bridge Worship- Sanctuary  
Sun Sch PreK-107  
Sun Sch Gr K-5-206  
Adult SS-Variou  
Youth Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditions Worship-  
Sanctuary
- 12:00 PM UMW Salad Lunch- DFH
- 4:00 PM Youth Activity- Annex
- 4:00 PM Bible Brews Bible Study-  
Three Leg Run

*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 Assistant Parish Nurse**, Pat Baake, is available today, 9:00 AM, Room 105.

**Small Group Leadership Lunch**: Today, January 12, 12:00 PM, Davis Fellowship Hall.  
POC: Jeff Marlin [jeff.marlinabd@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.marlinabd@gmail.com)

**The Fresh Start Band** will lead a song TODAY, Sunday, January 12, at 2:00 PM at Asbury UMC (324 N 29th Street, RVA 23223). The service is built around the book "God's Trombones" by James Weldon Johnson and is led by clergy women from around Richmond, including our friend, Rev. Audrey Smith. An offering will support RISC (Richmonders Involved to Strengthen our Communities) which is an ecumenical justice ministry with congregations throughout Richmond, Henrico and Chesterfield.

**Service to Flooded Damascus, VA** interest meeting *Today, 2:00 PM*, Room 213. We have been contacted by Ministry BGAV, [ImpactMissionsMovement.org](http://ImpactMissionsMovement.org). If we have enough interest, we will pull a team together. All are welcome! POC: Lynn Crump at [lynncrumppla@gmail.com](mailto:lynncrumppla@gmail.com)

**Feed More Food Distribution**: Friday, January 17, Greenleigh Community Center. We are need ten volunteers to assist with this event. Please sign up by Monday, January 13, using this link: [https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D44ACAF2CAAF5C16-54217089-feed#/  
POC: Eric Hougland \[ehougland88@gmail.com\]\(mailto:ehougland88@gmail.com\)](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D44ACAF2CAAF5C16-54217089-feed#/)

**Community Movie Night**: Saturday, January 18, 6:00 PM, Davis Fellowship Hall. Join us for *Despicable Me 4*. Popcorn and drinks provided. Concessions will be available. Register with the QR code. POC: Juliana Paradie [julianaparadie@chesterumc.org](mailto:julianaparadie@chesterumc.org)



**UMW Salad Luncheon**: Sunday, January 19, 12:00 PM, Davis Fellowship Hall. All women of the Church are invited to a luncheon meeting of the United Methodist Women. Our speaker will be Lisa Stanfield, member of the Rest Stop leadership team. Please bring a salad or dessert to share. POC: Susan Petrey, (804) 938-5396.

**New, Weekly Bible Study**: "Bible Brews", begins on Sunday, January 19, 4:00 PM, at Three Leg Run, 4418 W Hundred Rd, Chester. We will be using the Bible and discussing how to have difficult conversations, covering strategies, fallacies, pitfalls, and best practices. Led by Julia Harbert and Pastor Nathan Decker. POC: Julia Harbert, [julialharbert@gmail.com](mailto:julialharbert@gmail.com)

**Fifth & Sixth Grade Night Out**: Friday, January 24, 6:30 PM. More information will be coming soon. POC: Juliana Paradie [julianaparadie@chesterumc.org](mailto:julianaparadie@chesterumc.org)

**Keep In Prayer:** The family of Victoria Harrington & Margaret Ashbrook; Robin Willingham; The family of Debbie Wright; Becky Butler; Gina Quartuccio-Dobbs and Patrick Dobbs; Lester Harvey and Family; Michael Rodriguez; Cathy Epps; Anthony Napolitano; Dorothy Gonzalez; Diane Duffy; Heather and Matt Escobar; Jane Spain; Johnnie Davis; Harley Young; Sandra Cherny; Sharon Buchanan; Marie Purdue; Susan Young; Brooke and Mary Ann Hamilton; Pamela Brown; Seth and Beth Davis; Judy White; Angie Lawhon; Edward Borocho; Summer Lannan; Teresa Morgan; Wayne and Ginny Virag; Gary Williams; Harold Worcester; Jim and Dee Watkins; Deborah Napolitano; Mary Luther; Charles Cressell; Debra Harms; Gwen Byer; Casey Jones; Mary Ann Bellamy; Dick Weis; Penny Creed; Summer Vaughn; Lynda Richardson; Mary Tyree; Susie Hall; Ella Hilton; Jo Kiser; Erika Hilton

**Our Presence on January 5, 2025**

8:30 AM Fresh Start.....	99
9:45 AM Bridge.....	45
11:00 AM Traditions.....	127
Online.....	41
<b>Total Worship Attendance.....</b>	<b>312</b>

**CHESTER UMC ONLINE RESOURCES**

- **Website:** [www.chesterumc.org](http://www.chesterumc.org).
- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/ChesterUnitedMethodistChurch/>.
- **Facebook Closed Group:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ChesterUMC/>.
- **Instagram:** [Instagram.com/chesterumc](https://www.instagram.com/chesterumc)
- **Daily Email News:** Visit <http://eepurl.com/blV9Tv> to subscribe.
- **Daily Devotionals from Pastor Nathan:** <https://www.facebook.com/BetterTogether.Devos/>.
- **YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/c/ChesterUMC>.
- **Prayer Chain Email:** to subscribe or to submit a prayer request, email Michelle at [office@chesterumc.org](mailto:office@chesterumc.org) with “Prayer Chain” or “Prayer Request” in the subject line.
- **CUMC Library Catalog:** <https://16538.rmwebopac.com> (password: CUMC). Search for titles, peruse our inventory, and much more. POC: Ron Dombrowski [rmachachi@aol.com](mailto:rmachachi@aol.com).
- **The Chimes** – Submit items to [assistant@chesterumc.org](mailto:assistant@chesterumc.org) no later than the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of *January, March, May, July, September, and November.*

**Leading Our Worship Today, January 12, 2025**

<b>Greeters:</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Steve & Joan Osborne	
	<b>9:45</b>	Cathy Epps	
	<b>11:00</b>	Martha Miles, Linda Large	
<b>Ushers:</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Wendell Landis*, Bill Comer	
	<b>9:45</b>	Herb McCulloch*, Kim Young	* Head Usher
	<b>11:00</b>	Gary Williams*, Harold Crowder, Dean Hutchins, Larry Koon, Kay Williams	
<b>Nursery:</b>	<b>8:30, 9:45, 11:00</b>	Carla Adams, Morgan Hall	

**Snacks for ESL:** CUMC provides snacks for adult ESL students throughout the year. Please consider donating snacks and/or volunteering as a snack host/ hostess. To volunteer, contact Lynn Crump, [lynncrumppla@gmail.com](mailto:lynncrumppla@gmail.com)

**You are invited** to attend the District Training Event, “Empower - Equipping Churches” on Saturday, January 18, at Crenshaw Church in Blackstone. There will be specific training for Nominations/Leadership Development Committee members which will be led by Rev. Jason Stanley from the Conference Office of Clergy Excellence. Use this link to register: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0845AEAD2BA1FDCE9-52644973-living>

**Confirmation Class- Parent and Youth Interest Meeting:** Sunday, January 26, 2:00 PM, Annex. Confirmation class is a spiritual journey of youth who wish to grow in their faith in Jesus. All youth are welcome to participate; previous Baptism is not a requirement; previously confirmed youth are also welcome. If your youth is interested in growing more in their spiritual journey, please sign up through this link: <https://forms.gle/sVsFrLwFqGndQfNg7>  
POCs: Pastor Nathan and Juliana Paradie [julianaparadie@chesterumc.org](mailto:julianaparadie@chesterumc.org)

**Super Bowl Sunday Soup Luncheon:** Super Bowl Sunday, February 9, 12:00 PM, Davis Fellowship Hall. Join us for good food and fellowship. Proceeds will go to the UMW mission projects. All are invited immediately following the 11:00 AM worship. The menu includes a variety of heartwarming homemade soups, corn muffins, desserts and beverages. The cost at the door is \$10 per person. Call Susan Petrey, 938-5396, for more information.

**Zelle Giving:** Zelle is a great way to send your donations to the church. Find Zelle in the mobile banking app of your bank. You must have a smartphone to use Zelle. Our e-mail address is [finance@chesterumc.org](mailto:finance@chesterumc.org) Simply select the Zelle payment option on your bank's app, input our e-mail address above or scan this QR Code.



POC: Julie Jones, Financial Administrator, [finance@chesterumc.org](mailto:finance@chesterumc.org)

**Personalized Offering Envelopes:** If you requested personalized offering envelopes, please pick up your box located on the counter ledge in the Welcome Center.

**Leading Our Worship Next Sunday, January 19, 2025**

<b>Greeters:</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Laura Houglund
	<b>9:45</b>	Stephanie Decker
<b>Ushers:</b>	<b>11:00</b>	Teresa Dombrowski, Donna Nunery
	<b>8:30</b>	Gordon Jones*, Ron Dombrowski
	<b>9:45</b>	Jim Watkins*, Pat Stanfield
<b>Nursery:</b>	<b>11:00</b>	Beth Stewart*, Bob Kutz, Geoff LeSueur, Jeff Marlin, Don Schmidt
	<b>8:30, 9:45, 11:00</b>	Carla Adams, Morgan Hall

\* Head Usher

## SUNDAY SMALL GROUPS

**Children's Sunday School, Kidz Zone:** 9:45 AM. Pre-K (Rm. 107); Grades K-5 (Rm. 206)  
Come join our Kidz Zone Ministry. POC: Juliana Paradie [julianaparadie@chesterumc.org](mailto:julianaparadie@chesterumc.org).

**Adult Small Group Bible Study:** 9:45 AM, Room 213 "Our Pad" facilitated by  
Jeff Marlin [jeff.marlinabd@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.marlinabd@gmail.com).

**Fresh Start Sunday School Class:** 9:45 AM, Room 221, at the top of the old stairway. Join the  
Fresh Start Sunday School Class in study, fellowship, and service. All are welcome. Beginning  
January: *Don't Look Back: Methodist Hope for What Comes Next*, by Bishop Will Willimon.  
Join us as we study, listen and ask questions. POC: Susan Petrey, 804-938-5396.

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

**The Gathering Small Group:** 9:45 AM, Room 205. Join with other young families for a time of  
study and fellowship. POC: Brion & Sonja Seward [1bseward@comcast.net](mailto:1bseward@comcast.net), /Andrew Brummette.

**Journey Sunday School Class:** 9:45 AM, Annex and Google Meet, Join by video link:  
<https://meet.google.com/ptm-pieh-vve>. POCs: Carolyn Landis [landisfamily05@gmail.com](mailto:landisfamily05@gmail.com) and  
Eric Houglan [ehouglan88@gmail.com](mailto:ehouglan88@gmail.com)

**Seekers Sunday School Class:** 9:40 AM, Room 226. All adults are welcome.  
POC: Gordon Jones [JONESGJ215@gmail.com](mailto:JONESGJ215@gmail.com)

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

**Middle & High School, Sunday School Class:** 9:45 AM, Annex Loft. Grades 6-12.  
POC: Juliana Paradie [julianaparadie@chesterumc.org](mailto:julianaparadie@chesterumc.org)

**Youth Group:** Grades 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 PM -5:30 PM, Annex. Meet for weekly for fun, fellowship  
and outreach. POCs: Emily Smith & Jess Hargraves [youthleaders@chesterumc.org](mailto:youthleaders@chesterumc.org)

**New Weekly Small Group- Bible Brews:** Begins on Sunday, January 19, 4:00 PM, at Three Leg  
Run, 4418 W Hundred Rd, Chester. We will be using the Bible and discussing how to have  
difficult conversations, covering strategies, fallacies, pitfalls, and best practices. Led by Julia  
Harbert and Pastor Nathan Decker. POC: Julia Harbert, [julialharbert@gmail.com](mailto:julialharbert@gmail.com)

**Bridge Builders:** Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays, 12:15 PM, Room 116. Join us as we pursue ways to build  
bridges of acceptance for our neighbors who do not look, think, speak or pray like us. POC:  
Maureen Coker [mcoker2003@comcast.net](mailto:mcoker2003@comcast.net)

**United Methodist Men:** If you are seeking to give and receive fellowship, mentorship, service  
to Church and community, and study The Word of God with other men.  
POC: Brion Seward [1bseward@comcast.net](mailto:1bseward@comcast.net)



## 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](mailto:smorris787@aim.com)

**Village People Study, Socialize, & Service Group:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays, 2:00 PM, Community Room at Chester Village Senior Apartments (11701 Chester Village Drive).

**Beginner Reading-Music Classes:** Mondays, 7:00 PM, Music Suite. Learn to read music. For more information, call or email Tom McHugh at (804) 240-2456 [vthokietom@gmail.com](mailto:vthokietom@gmail.com).

**Joy Singers:** Tuesdays, 10:30 AM, Music Suite. Rehearsals for our retired folks. This group sings for local nursing home residents and community groups. POC: Joshua Wortham. [music@chesterumc.org](mailto:music@chesterumc.org)

**Grief Recovery Group:** Begins Tuesday, February 4, 2:00 PM, Room 213. A Christ-centered program is for those who have lost a loved one within the past two years. POCs: Mel Talley [melindakelleytalley@gmail.com](mailto:melindakelleytalley@gmail.com) , Keith Mottley [keithmottley@comcast.net](mailto:keithmottley@comcast.net)

**English as a Second Language (ESL) Classes:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7:00 PM- 8:30 PM. New semester: January 7 through March 11. POC: Pastor Nathan [nathandecker@chesterumc.org](mailto:nathandecker@chesterumc.org)

**Youth Bible Study:** Wednesdays, 5:45 PM- 7:00 PM, Trinity UMC, 6600 Greenyard Rd, Chester. POC: Juliana Paradie [julianaparadie@chesterumc.org](mailto:julianaparadie@chesterumc.org)

**Kidz Zone Wacky Wednesdays:** Wednesdays, 5:45 PM-7:00 PM, Trinity UMC, 6600 Greenyard Rd, Chester. POC: Juliana Paradie [julianaparadie@chesterumc.org](mailto:julianaparadie@chesterumc.org)

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

**Handbells:** Wednesdays, 5:45 PM, Sanctuary. Adults. POC: Joshua Wortham [music@chesterumc.org](mailto:music@chesterumc.org)

**Thursday Morning Men's Bible Study:** Thursdays, 7:30 AM at Grants Coffee Company, 11884 Chester Village Drive. POC: Gordon Morris [gordo15458@aim.com](mailto:gordo15458@aim.com)

**Women's Fellowship Luncheon:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays, 11:30 AM. Next Lunch- *January 16 at Carini's Italian Restaurant, Colonial Heights*. RSVP by Monday, January 13. Join us each month at a local restaurant for good food and conversation. POC: Joan Osborne [josbor61@gmail.com](mailto:josbor61@gmail.com)

**Prayer Shawl Group:** Thursdays, 1:30 PM, Parlor. All are invited to join! We can provide yarn and will happily teach you how to knit or crochet. POCs: Beverly Trevillian (804) 337-2367; Betty Stone (804) 914-0433 [wva\\_lady@verizon.net](mailto:wva_lady@verizon.net)

**Women's Christian Book Club:** 1<sup>st</sup> Thursdays of odd months, 6:30 PM, CUMC Parlor. POC: Jennifer Brame [jrbrooksiee@gmail.com](mailto:jrbrooksiee@gmail.com)

**Kidz Zone Night:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays, 6:00 PM, Join us for food and a variety of fun activities! POC: Charlotte Brummette [Charl208@yahoo.com](mailto:Charl208@yahoo.com)

**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.” Call Susan Petrey, 804-938-5396, to learn more about UMW and how you can become involved.

- **The Jean Craig Fellowship**: Meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 PM, Room 205. Next meeting: February 3. POC: Susan Petrey 804-938-5396
- **The Ada Mae Bookman Fellowship**: Meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month, 10:30 AM, Room 226. Next meeting: February 13. POC: Martha Miles, 804-748-5476

**Bridge Builders**: Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, 12:15 PM, 116. Are you a disciple who believes God is calling you on a journey of racial justice and reconciliation, to build relationships in the community promoting understanding, compassion and togetherness? Join us as we build bridges of acceptance for our neighbors. “Do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your God”- Micah 6:8. POC: Maureen Coker [mcoker2003@comcast.net](mailto:mcoker2003@comcast.net)

**Backpack Ministry**: Thanks to everyone who is supporting this ministry with gifts of food or monetary donations. It takes a lot to feed 63 children every weekend and we could not do it without your help. If you are a part of an organization that looks for ways to help, please consider suggesting our Backpack Ministry. We are available to come to a meeting and explain about our program and the needs. As always, thank you.  
POC: Karen Comer [kgcomer@verizon.net](mailto:kgcomer@verizon.net)

**Bridge Builders Jail Ministry**: As part of our mission to make change in the community, Bridge Builders has a Jail Ministry with the Chesterfield County Jail HARP program (Helping Addicts Recover Progressively). A team of volunteers visits the jail the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the month, facilitating a book study. These men have shared joys, sorrows, dreams and talents such as poetry, music, songs and stories, enriching the lives of the men as well as the volunteers! Become a volunteer involves submitting paperwork for access into the jail, writing to the men, providing monetary donations for study books, and praying for the men in the HARP program, as well as those ministering to them. POC: Maureen Coker [mcoker2003@comcast.net](mailto:mcoker2003@comcast.net)

**Precious Memories Small Group for Widows and Widowers**: Thursday, January 16. Meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month, 1:00 PM, at Trinity UMC Fellowship classroom. Please enter at the back of the Church and someone will greet you. Please RSVP if you plan to attend.  
POC: Bonnie Donaldson [bon.donaldson@gmail.com](mailto:bon.donaldson@gmail.com)

**Grief Support Group:** Beginning Tuesday, February 4, 2:00 PM -4:00 PM, Room 213. Meets weekly for 13 weeks. For those who have lost a loved one within the past 2 years. This Christ-centered program helps people apply biblical principles as they deal with the emotions and life stresses following the death of a loved one. More information to come.

POCs: Mel Talley at [melindakelleytalley@gmail.com](mailto:melindakelleytalley@gmail.com) and Keith Mottley, Retired UMM Pastor at [keith.mottley@comcast.net](mailto:keith.mottley@comcast.net)

**Rest Stop** is a Chester UMC after school program designed to provide rest and encouragement to at-risk youth from Thomas Dale High School. During the school year we meet weekly on Tuesday afternoons at the Annex. Do you have a special gift to share with these young people or just an abundance of love to give? 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. POC: Team Leader, Susan Petrey (804) 938-5396.

**Stephen Ministry:** Stephen Ministry needs your help! There are people in our congregation and community who could benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister. We have trained Stephen Ministers ready to walk alongside these people. If you are aware of someone who could benefit from a Stephen Minister, please contact Steve Osborne [sosbor60@gmail.com](mailto:sosbor60@gmail.com) or Pastor Nathan, [nathandecker@chesterumc.org](mailto:nathandecker@chesterumc.org).



**Snacks for ESL:** CUMC provides snacks for adult ESL students throughout the year. Please consider donating snacks and/or volunteering as a snack host/ hostess. To volunteer, contact Lynn Crump, [lynncrumppla@gmail.com](mailto:lynncrumppla@gmail.com)

**ESL Classes:** English as a Second Language: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7:00 PM–8:30 PM, Rooms 205, 214, 226. POC: Pastor Nathan Decker [nathandecker@chesterumc.org](mailto:nathandecker@chesterumc.org)

**A Place of Miracles Clothing Closet** is requesting coats and gloves- all sizes, all genders. Newborn clothes and diapers, boy's clothes sizes 7 to 9, and personal hygiene items. Drop off items in the CUMC Missions Closet.

POC: Diane Merryman at [dianemerryman@gmail.com](mailto:dianemerryman@gmail.com), 804-586-4189

**Help Spread Sunday Smiles!** Our Hospitality Team needs volunteers to pick up donuts and brew coffee on the second and third Sundays of each month.

Interested in helping? Contact Andy & Eileen Steck [andyei10twitchell@gmail.com](mailto:andyei10twitchell@gmail.com)

**2026 Youth International Missions Trip:** Youth Group is planning to go to Guatemala for an International Missions Trip. If your youth is interested, please fill out this survey. Your child must be age 13 by 2026. Survey Link: <https://forms.gle/QAQQ3GFA1ANxCSDp9>

