



February 23, 2025 – 9:45 AM

WORSHIP MUSIC

I Feel Like Traveling On
Blessed Be Your Name
Peace Like a River
Where Could I Go?

SPECIAL MUSIC

Climb Every Mountain
Chelsea Buyalos

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5:1-10
Good News Translation

MESSAGE

Climbing Mountains with Lessons on Life
Pastor Nathan Decker

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 nathandecker@chesterumc.org
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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 * *A Stephen Ministry Congregation*



FRESH START SERVICE
February 23, 2025 - 8:30 AM



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

WORSHIP MUSIC

You Are Good
Blessed Be Your Name
Holy Song
Blessed Are the Humble
All the People Said Amen

SPECIAL MUSIC

Climb Every Mountain
Chelsea Buyalos

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5:1-10
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Climbing Mountains with Lessons on Life
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Having trouble seeing the screen? Just ask an usher for a copy of today's large print song lyrics

February 23, 2025

A Service of Worship and Praise
11:00 AM

Eighth Sunday
after Epiphany

Welcome, Announcements, and Greeting

Prelude

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

Organist

* Call to Worship¹ Tom McHugh, Liturgist

Leader: When we stumble and our faith falters, God's faithfulness bears us along.

LEFT: When our spirits soar and our faith grows strong, God's faithfulness lifts us to new heights of devotion.

RIGHT: When our daily duties distract, and our visions grow fuzzy, God's faithfulness pierces the fog to beckon us.

ALL: God's faithfulness endures forever! We lift our hearts in praise to the One who is our God this day and forever more!

* Hymn No. 715

Rejoice, the Lord is King

* Affirmation of Faith from Matthew 5:1-12²

* 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.

Baptism & Reception of New Members

Why We Give

Offertory

Climb Every Mountain

Chelsea Buyalos

* 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. 467

Trust and Obey

Stanzas 1-3

Prayer for Illumination³

Holy God, author of the Word made flesh, to whom belongs both the first Word and the last, open us to your Spirit, that as scripture is spoken and your Word proclaimed, we may be comforted, convinced, and changed to the glory of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Scripture

Matthew 5:1-10

GNT

Message

Climbing Mountains with Lessons on Life

Rev. Nathan Decker

* Hymn No. 431

Let There Be Peace on Earth

* Benediction

* Choral Amen

Chancel Choir

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

¹ Flames of the Spirit, pg. 59, #4

² Worship and Song, pg. 38, #83

³ Worship and Song, pg. 33, #75

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God, by Dick & Bonnie Cauthorn.

Calendar

February 23, 2025– March 2, 2025

Today: Sunday, February 23

- 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- Sanctuary
- 12:00 PM New Member Luncheon-
DFH
- 12:00 PM Damascus Mission Trip
Meeting- 226
- 2:00 PM Youth Confirmation-Annex
- 4:00 PM Youth Activities- Annex

Monday: February 24

- 3:30 PM Easter Egg Hunt Planning
Meeting-116
- 6:30 PM Boy Scouts- DFH
- 7:00 PM Music Reading- Music Ste

Tuesday: February 25

- 10:30 AM Joy Singers
- 2:00 PM Grief Support Group-213
- 3:00 PM Rest Stop- Annex
- 7:00 PM ESL- 205, 214, 221, 226

Wednesday: February 26

- 10:00 AM Stretch Exercise Class-
Trinity UMC
- 12:00 PM Bulletin Deadline
- 5:45 PM Handbell Choir- Music
Suite

- 5:45 PM Kidz Zone & Youth Bible
Study- Trinity UMC
- 6:00 PM Cub Scouts- 226
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir- Music
Suite

Thursday: February 27

- 12:30 PM Precious Memories Group-
Trinity UMC
- 1:30 PM Prayer Shawl- Parlor
- 7:00 PM ESL- DFH, 205, 214,
221, 226

Friday: February 28

Saturday: March 1

- 9:00 AM Youth Tubing Trip-
Wintergreen

Next Sunday: March 2, Youth Sunday

- 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 New Member Luncheon-
DFH
- 1:30 PM Key Club-116
- 2:00 PM Confirmation Class-Annex
- 4:00 PM Bible Brews- 3 Leg Run

(continued)

*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.

Join Us in Welcoming Our Newest Members to Christian Fellowship! See the full list of our newest members within this bulletin.

Baptism: Join us today in celebrating the Baptism of Jack O'Connell.

Mission Trip to Damascus, Planning Meeting: Today, 12:00 PM, Room 226. For all interested in joining the mission trip to Damascus, VA to help with flood renovations from March 23 to 29. For those who cannot join us, we gladly accept your prayers and donations. If you are interested in going and cannot attend the meeting today, please contact Lynn Crump at lynncrumppla@gmail.com or 804-513-0260.

Mardi Gras Pancake Supper and Ash Wednesday Service: Tuesday, March 4, 6:30 PM, Fellowship Hall. After a jovial pancake supper served by the Journey Group, we will transition to a meaningful Ash Wednesday worship service. Donations will benefit the flood victims in Damascus, VA. POC: Kris Spadaccia kspadaccia@outlook.com or 804-357-7463 (text first)

Traditional Ash Wednesday Service: Wednesday, March 5, 12:00 PM, Sanctuary

Lenten Lunch Series: Wednesdays, March 12- April 16, 12:00 PM, Bermuda Hundred UMC. Bermuda Hundred UMC invites Chester UMC to share in its Lenten Luncheon series of worship during Lent. There will be a brief worship with hymns and a message, then a light lunch.

Join the Easter Choir Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary. Singers of all skill levels are invited to join us as we prepare "No Greater Love" by Lloyd Larson. It will be presented on April 13 and 14. POC: Joshua (music@chesterumc.org).

Thinking about becoming a CUMC member? You are always welcome to join! Learn details and information about becoming a CUMC Member by contacting Beth Stewart, our Membership Coordinator, at (919) 210-2220 or bethstew@gmail.com.



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. Simply select the Zelle payment option on your bank's app, input our e-mail address above or scan the QR Code. POC: Julie Jones, Financial Administrator, finance@chesterumc.org

Keep In Prayer: The family of David Powell; Wayne Chadwick; Summer Vaughn; Pam Kasky; The family of Louan Stanfield; Sue Coleman; Jim Shelburne; Dick Thackston; Myrna Hirv; Andrew Meuller; Jeffrey Resnick; Mark Sumner; Eddie & Becky Leonard; Robin Willingham; Becky Butler; Jo Kiser; Patrick & Gina Dobbs; Lester Harvey and Family; Michael Rodriguez; Anthony Napolitano; Dorothy Gonzalez; Diane Duffy; Heather and Matt Escobar; Jane Spain; Bob and 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 Boroch; Summer Lannan; Teresa Morgan; Wayne and Ginny Virag; Gary Williams; Jim and Dee Watkins; Deborah Napolitano; Mary Luther; Charles Cressell; Harold Worcester; Debra Harms; Gwen Byer; Casey Jones; Mary Ann Bellamy; Dick Weis; Penny Creed; Lynda Richardson; Mary Tyree; Susie Hall; Ella Hilton; Erika Hilton

Chester UMC Online Resources

- **Website:** 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 with “Prayer Chain” or “Prayer Request” in the subject line.
- **CUMC Library Catalog:** <https://16538.rmwebopac.com> (password: CUMC). Search for titles, peruse our inventory, and much more. POC: Ron Dombrowski rmachachi@aol.com.
- **The Chimes** – Submit items to assistant@chesterumc.org no later than the 3rd Wednesday of January, *March*, May, July, September, and November.

Leading Our Worship Today, February 23, 2025

Greeters:	8:30 Andy & Eileen Steck
	9:45 Jesse & Brenda Stacy
	11:00 Jim Rhodes, Will Schmidt
Ushers:	8:30 Wendell Landis*, Bill Comer
	9:45 Jim Watkins*, Kim Young * Head Usher
	11:00 Gary Williams*, Harold Crowder, Dean Hutchins, Scott Pugh, Kay Williams
Hospitality:	Eileen Steck
Nursery:	Carla Adams, Morgan Hall

UMCOR Kits for Conference: The United Methodist Committee on Relief operates two relief depots, one in Salt Lake City and the Sager Brown Depot in Baldwin, Louisiana. For the past several years CUMC and the UMW have collected materials for and assembled hygiene kits have on hand when disaster strikes. Due to flooding in the Southeast, wildfires in California, and war in Ukraine and the Near East, there is an urgent need to restock their inventory. Our goal for this year's June 12-14 VAUM Conference is 100 hygiene kits. All are invited to support this effort by donating items. Pick up your "assignment ticket" from the display in the Atrium return the assigned items to the collection box in the mission closet ASAP but no later than 12:00 PM on Sunday, April 6. Call Susan Petrey, 938-5396, for more information.

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. 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 donation check payable to CUMC; memo Rest Stop, to help cover our small expenses. You will leave Rest Stop 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 or Pastor Nathan, nathandecker@chesterumc.org.



Our Presence on February 16, 2025

8:30 AM Fresh Start.....95	Online.....63
9:45 AM Bridge.....44	Ken Medema Concert.....181
11:00 AM Traditions.....164	Total.....547

Leading Our Worship Next Sunday, March 2, 2025

Greeters:	8:30	Bill & Karen Comer
	9:45	Stephanie Decker
	11:00	Will Schmidt, Jim Rhodes
Ushers:	8:30	Gordon Jones*, CUMC Youth
	9:45	Beth Stewart*, CUMC Youth * Head Usher
	11:00	Will Herrmann*, Marshall Henry, Scott Pugh, CUMC Youth
Communion:	8:30	Juliana Paradie, Paige Irving, Austin Voros
	9:45	Steve Osborne, Cornelia DeWitt, Zak McNelley, Ethan Decker
	11:00	Juliana Paradie, Colton Kasky, Jonny Phillips
Hospitality:		Eileen Steck
Nursery:		Carla Adams, Morgan Hall

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.

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

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, /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 and
Eric Hougland ehougland88@gmail.com

Seekers Sunday School Class: 9:40 AM, Room 226. All adults are welcome.
POC: Gordon Jones JONESGJ215@gmail.com

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

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

Youth Group: Grades 6th-12th, 4:00 PM -5:30 PM, Annex. Meet for weekly for fun, fellowship
and outreach. POCs: Emily Smith & Jess Hargraves youthleaders@chesterumc.org

Bible Brews: 4:00 PM, Three Leg Run, 4418 W Hundred Rd, Chester. Bible based discussions
on how to have difficult conversations, covering strategies, fallacies, pitfalls, and best practices.
Led by Julia Harbert and Pastor Nathan Decker. POC: Julia Harbert, juliaharbert@gmail.com

United Methodist Men: *Next Meeting, March 6.* Meets on the first Thursday of each month,
6:45 PM, Davis Fellowship Hall. 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.com

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 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.

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

Grief Recovery Group: Tuesdays, 2:00 PM, Room 213. A Christ-centered program is for those who have lost a loved one within the past two years. \$10 workbook fee. Scholarships are available. POCs: Mel Talley melindakelleytalley@gmail.com , and Keith Mottley keith.mottley@comcast.net

English as a Second Language (ESL) Classes: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7:00 PM- 8:30 PM. POC: Pastor Nathan 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

Kidz Zone Wacky Wednesdays: Wednesdays, 5:45 PM-7:00 PM, Trinity UMC, 6600 Greenyard Rd, Chester. POC: Juliana Paradie 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

Handbells: Wednesdays, 5:45 PM, Sanctuary. Adults. POC: Joshua Wortham 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

Women's Fellowship Luncheon: 3rd Thursdays, 11:30 AM. Join us each month at a local restaurant for good food and great conversation. POC: Joan Osborne 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, and Betty Stone (804) 914-0433 wva_lady@verizon.net

Women's Christian Book Club: 1st Thursdays of odd months, 6:30 PM, CUMC Parlor. POC: Jennifer Brame jrbrooksiee@gmail.com

Kidz Zone Night: 3rd Saturdays, 6:00 PM, Join us for food and a variety of fun activities! POC: Charlotte Brummette 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, our two participating fellowships, and how you can become involved.

- **The Jean Craig Fellowship:** Meets on the 1st Monday of each month at 7:00 PM, Room 205. *Next meeting: March 3.* We will be putting together Period Packs for young women in need. POC: Susan Petrey 804-938-5396
- **The Ada Mae Bookman Fellowship:** Meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month, 10:30 AM, Room 226. *Next Meeting: March 13.* POC: Martha Miles, 804-748-5476
- **Salad Luncheon:** Sunday, March 16, 12:00 PM, Fellowship Hall. Women of the Church are invited to a luncheon meeting of the UMW. Bring a salad or dessert to share.

Backpack Ministry Our Backpack Ministry to Curtis and Wells continues to grow. We are currently serving 64 children each week –the most we have ever attempted! With the support of many, we are meeting our needs but the cost each week is high. If you have not yet supported this ministry, we ask you please consider how you can help. A monthly donation of even a small amount makes a difference. You can pick up a few items when you shop and drop them in our mission closet bin. We especially need canned meats (tuna, chicken, Vienna sausage), peanut butter, applesauce, canned pasta or pop tarts. If you are already contributing, please know that we appreciate each donation of money or food. This is truly a church project, and it wouldn't be possible without the help of many. POC: Karen Comer 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 2nd & 4th 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

STRETCH Exercise Class: Meets on Wednesdays, 10:00 am, at Trinity UMC. All are welcome. This is a light resistance stretching and exercise class for older adults, facilitated by a retired nurse and certified exercise instructor. POC: Annette Hairfield ahairfield@icloud.com

Precious Memories Small Group for Widows and Widowers: Meets on the 3rd 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. POC: Bonnie at bon.donaldson@gmail.com

Graduate Recognition: On Sunday, May 4, we will recognize all 2025 graduates during worship. Whether you are graduating from high school, college, trade school, secondary education—any sort of graduation—we want to celebrate with you! Sign your graduate up through this link: <https://forms.gle/B1aAbyviEUF2XM85A> or email Juliana Paradie julianaparadie@chesterumc.org

Plant & Seed Swap: Sunday, March 23, before and after 11:00 AM Worship, in the CUMC Welcome Center. Do you have an abundance of vegetable seeds or bulbs? Do your houseplants need thinning? Bring extra seeds, bulbs, plants, and supplies to Church. Lettuce join together and talk dirt. You don't need to bring anything to attend. All are welcome to the abundance. POC: Katey McCarney (804) 402-0084

Candy Donations for the Glow in the Dark Easter Egg Hunt: The Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, April 12. We are asking for candy and plastic easter egg donations. No chocolate candy, please. Drop off donations in the missions closet bin at the Church. POC: Juliana Paradie julianaparadie@chesterumc.org

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/QAQX3GFA1ANxCSDp9>

A Place of Miracles Clothing Closet Thank you for your generous donations for people who are homeless, living in motels, or trailer parks. We need men's shirts- size S, M, L ; men's jeans/pants/joggers size S, M, L and 28 waist through 34 waist. All size gloves and men's belts. Towels, boy's clothes sizes 4T, 5T, 6T, Infant items, and girls clothes size 5T. Place items in the Missions Closet. POC: Diane Merryman at dianemerryman@gmail.com, 804-586-4189

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, please contact Lynn Crump, lynncrumppla@gmail.com

VBS Volunteers Needed: VBS is around the corner, and we are in our planning stages. We are looking for VBS Volunteers to help on June 23-27 from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM. If you would like to volunteer, register through this link: <https://chester-umc.mycokesburyvbs.com/register-volunteer> or use this QR Code. For more information, contact: Juliana Paradie julianaparadie@chesterumc.org



The Hospitality Team needs volunteers to pick up donuts and brew coffee on the second and third Sundays of each month. Contact Andy & Eileen Steck if you are interested in volunteering. POC: Andy & Eileen Steck andyei10twitchell@gmail.com

**Join us on Sunday, March 9 as we warmly welcome our guest, Martha Stokes.
We look forward to hearing her inspiring message.**



Martha Ensley Stokes

Martha Stokes is our Virginia Conference Lay Leader. Martha is a life-long Methodist, having been baptized Methodist and confirmed as a United Methodist in the same small church in Fieldale, VA (Mountain View District). She and her husband, Steve, are members of Duncan Memorial United Methodist in Ashland (Three Notch'd District). Since her teenage years, she has served in a variety of local church leadership roles including worship and song leader, choir member, Sunday School teacher, local church Lay Leader, Staff-Parish Relations Committee Chair and Church Council member. Now retired, Martha worked professionally with our Virginia Conference-related mission partners – Pinnacle Living and Heart Havens, on the Virginia Conference Connectional Ministries team, and with the Henrico County Schools. She received her Master of Social Work degree from Virginia Commonwealth University and her Bachelor of Arts from Meredith College. Martha is endorsed as a Lay Speaker and holds professional certification through The United Methodist Church in Older Adult Ministries. She has served as a member of the board of directors for United Methodist Discipleship Ministries and on the Committee on the Episcopacy for the Southeastern Jurisdiction. Martha has been elected as a member of the Virginia Conference delegation to the General and Jurisdictional Conferences since 2008. She served as the lay chair of the 2016 and 2019 delegations.

Let's Welcome Our Newest Members, Today!

Charles & Ellen Bates
Margie Beckner
Dick & Bonnie Cauthorn
LaVern Cole
Joel & Florria Crawford
Bruce & Sharon Edmiston
Sandy Fobia
Sandy Foote
Wesley Foote
Jessica Hargraves
Dorsey & Debbie Howard
Barbara John
Matt & Melissa Markland
Trudy Masden
Erin Foote McClinton
Steve & Anne Muzos
Katherine O'Connell
Jack O'Connell
Juliana Paradie
Trey Parker
Patricia Reynolds
Dave & Cathy Staples
Hilah Stiles
Rosa Van de Wiel
Dave & Susan Young
Hank & Janie Zimon