the bridge

May 10, 2026 - 9:45 AM

WORSHIP MUSIC
Glory to His Name
Can He, Could He, Would He?
Peace Like a River
Redeemed

SPECIAL MUSIC
Be Thou My Vision with
My Shepherd Will Supply My Need
Adoration
Jack Price, trumpet

SCRIPTURE
Psalm 66:8-20 NRSVUE

MESSAGE
Trying Mother's Patience
Pastor Nathan Decker

CUMC STAFF DIRECTORY

Ministers ..... All Disciples of the Congregation
Lead Pastor: Nathan Decker ..... nathandecker@chesterumc.org
Minister of Music: Joshua Wortham ..... music@chesterumc.org
Pastoral Intern: Evan Moody ..... youthleaders@chesterumc.org
Office Manager: Michelle Couvillion ..... office@chesterumc.org
Office Assistant: Sally Maxwell ..... assistant@chesterumc.org
Financial Administrator: Julie Jones ..... finance@chesterumc.org
Nursery Specialists ..... Carla Adams, Vicki Hankins
Children's Ministry: Whitney Graham ..... preschool@chesterumc.org
MS & HS Youth Ministry: Evan Moody ..... youthleaders@chesterumc.org
Preschool Director: Whitney Graham ..... preschool@chesterumc.org

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

May 10, 2026 - 8:30 AM

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

WORSHIP MUSIC

House of the Lord
The Only Name
I Speak Jesus
I Am Free

SPECIAL MUSIC

Be Thou My Vision with My Shepherd Will Supply My Need
Adoration
Jack Price, trumpet

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 66:8-20 NRSVUE

MESSAGE

Trying Mother's Patience
Pastor Nathan Decker

May 10, 2026 **A Service of Worship and Praise** **11:00 AM**
Sixth Sunday of Easter

Welcome, Announcements & Greeting

Prelude ***Be Thou My Vision*** *with* ***My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*** Jack Price, trumpet

* Call to Worship[1] Claudia Nagy, Liturgist

Leader: On this day of celebrating mothers, we remember and lift up our mothers to the Lord. Mothers of young children, first-time mothers, working mothers, and single mothers.

People: We see you and honor you today.

Leader: Grieving mothers who have lost a child too soon, and those who desire to be mothers.

People: We see you and honor you today.

Leader: All those who are missing their mothers, and mothers who are missing their children.

People: We see you and honor you today.

Leader: Mothers who did not give birth to us biologically, but have raised us and brought life to us in countless other ways.

People: We see you and honor you today.

Leader: In times full of joy and abundance, in times of empty nests and empty cradles, in all these God tends his flock like a shepherd and carries the lambs close to his heart.

People: As a mother comforts her child, so will God comfort us.

* Opening Prayer

Thank God for mothers who sacrifice their time for our happiness, and give us the freedom to be ourselves, even when we disagree. Thank God for mothers who make home a place called love, who desire the bond of togetherness, even in the midst of confusion. Thank God for mothers who never give up on us, who willingly believe in us, and who faithfully stand by our side. Thank God for mothers who patiently try to understand us and consistently overlook our faults with tenderness and love. Thank God for mothers who don't expect perfection, from us or themselves, and who lead us to the only One who is perfect. Thank God for mothers. Amen.

* Hymn No. 102 ***Now Thank We All Our God***

* Affirmation of Faith No. 881

* Gloria Patri No. 70

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

Children's Message		Whitney Graham
Anthem	***Grace Alone***	Chancel Choir
Why We Give Offertory	***Adoration***	Jack Price, trumpet

* 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		Claudia Nagy
Hymn No. 92	***For the Beauty of the Earth***	*Stanzas 1, 2, 4 & 6*
Scripture	***Psalm 66:8-20***	NRSVUE
Sermon	***Trying Mother's Patience***	Rev. Nathan Decker

* Hymn No. 139 ***Praise to the Lord, the Almighty***
* Benediction
* Choral Amen

---

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

[1]https://worshipforworkers.com/resources/prayers/a-call-to-worship-for-mothers-day/
[2]https://www.rebeccabarlowjordan.com/thank-god-for-mothers/

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Mother's Day, by Sherri and Donnie Snelson.

Calendar

May 10, 2026– May 17, 2026

Today: Sunday, May 10- Mother's Day

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-Various
Youth Sunday School
11:00 AM Traditions Worship- Sanctuary
4:00 PM Youth Group-Youth House

Monday: May 11

11:30 AM Book Club- 226
2:30 PM Stephen Leaders- 116
6:30 PM Boy Scouts- DFH

Tuesday: May 12

10:30 AM Joy Singers- Harmony
3:00 PM Rest Stop- Youth House
6:00 PM Bridge Band Rehearsal- Sanctuary
7:00 PM ESL- 205, 214, 221, 226
7:00 PM Church Council- 116
7:30 PM Fresh Start Band Rehearsal- DFH

Wednesday: May 13

2:00 PM Grief Share-213
5:45 PM Handbell Choir
5:45 PM Wacky Wed.- Trinity
6:15 PM Youth Bible Study- Trinity UMC
7:00 PM Chancel Choir
7:00 PM Handbells- Music Suite

Thursday: May 14

10:00 AM The Hurried Gospel of Mark- 221
10:30 AM Bookman Fellowship Luncheon- Antonio's
1:30 PM Prayer Shawl- Parlor
6:30 PM Young Adult Bible Study- Youth House
7:00 PM ESL- 205, 214, 221, 226

Friday: May 15

Saturday: May 16

7:00 AM Running for HIS Glory- Church Parking Lot
2:00 PM LC Bird Engineering- DFH

Next Sunday: May 17

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-Various
Youth Sunday School
11:00 AM Traditions Worship- Sanctuary
3:00 PM Handbell Concert- Trinity
3:00 PM Pint with a Pastor-Three Leg Run
4:00 PM Youth Group- Youth House

We are truly blessed if you are a guest who has chosen to worship with us today! First-time guests are invited to pick up a blue Welcome Bag from the Atrium or Narthex. Thank you for celebrating the Lord with us today!

Our Parish Nurse, Cindy Webb will be available today at 9:00 AM in Room 105.

Handbell Choir Concert: Sunday, May 17, 3:00 PM at Trinity UMC. Featuring the bell choirs from both Chester UMC and Trinity UMC. Invite your friends and neighbors to hear this beautiful, free concert featuring a wide array of musical styles! All are welcome!

Women's Fellowship Lunch: Thursday, May 21, 11:30 AM. This month's luncheon will be at Peking Chester. RSVP no later than Monday, May 18, to Joan Osborne, josbor61@gmail.com.

Gather & Graze: Join us Sunday, June 7, immediately following the 11:00 AM Traditions Worship / Communion service. Try something new and stay awhile! Stop by the Welcome Center for *Gather & Graze*, a welcoming time to visit with others and enjoy a complimentary light lunch and a time of fellowship. POCs: Beth Stewart and Gail King

Vacation Bible School: June 22-26, 9:00 AM- 12:00 PM. For children preschool age through 5th grade. **Volunteers are needed and appreciated!** Please use this QR code to register as a volunteer and/or to register your child to attend VBS. Join our summer adventure to GROW WITH GOD at VBS. Children will immerse in learning the story of the Bible with crafts, song, dance and science! Each group will be matched with peers in their age group to visit stations with our trusted volunteers and youth staff. Children will have snacks and recreation outside daily, weather permitting. Guaranteed fun each day! This year's theme is ***JUST LIKE ME!*** Come and join us in the garden as we celebrate who we are, learn how to use our voice, and share our gifts with our community! Each day we'll meet a new member of our Garden Group who will share their special gift and invite us into a new Bible lesson as we learn vital social and spiritual skills to support faith development! POC: Whitney Graham, preschool@chesterumc.org

Come From Away Musical Wednesday, July 8, 7:00 PM, at Virginia Repertory Theatre. Tickets are $70 (rows K, L & M, center orchestra). Joshua Wortham has reserved a block of tickets and is arranging van transportation/carpooling (loading up at church at 5:45 PM). Fill out this form to reserve tickets: https://forms.gle/cYyBzVDQQyJmTzCP6. Make checks payable to Joshua Wortham or Venmo @Joshua-Wortham. "*Come From Away"* is a Tony Award-winning musical based on the true story of 7,000 airline passengers stranded in Gander, Newfoundland, following the 9/11 attacks. The show follows local residents who welcomed, fed, and housed the "come from aways" (strangers), transforming a global tragedy into a powerful, heartwarming story of community, kindness, and resilience. POC: Josh Wortham, music@chesterumc.org

Keep In Prayer: Michael Stinnett; Wade Scruton; Rose Childress; Cindy Webb; Jennifer Dyson; Abby Honn; Sandy Cullather; Joshua Devericks; Doris Hancock; Monty Nunery; Bobbie Morrissette; Jim Watkins; Dorothy Gonzalez; Linda Nabors; Victoria Harrington; Pat Baake; Laney Marshall Phillips; Walt Stone; Bruce Nugent; Sharon Buchanan; Linda Willingham; Susan May; Eliza Furr; Cynthia Corley; Bruce Highley; Dick & Lynn Weis; Ann Stuart; Bert Watson; Jo Kiser; Ella Hilton; Erika Hilton; Cathy Epps; Susan Young; Harold Worcester; Lynda Richardson; Summer Lannan; Brooke & Mary Ann Hamilton

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
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.
The Chimes* Newsletter**– Submit items to assistant@chesterumc.org no later than the 3rd Wednesday of January**,** March, ***May, July, September, and November.

Our Presence on Sunday, May 3, 2026

8:30 AM, Fresh Start.....…95
9:45 AM, Bridge 42
11:00 AM, Traditions.....143
Online.....50
Total……...……330

Leading Our Worship Today, Sunday, May 10, 2026

Greeters:	**8:30**	Joan & Steve Osborne	
	9:45	Cathy Epps	
	11:00	Will Schmidt	
Ushers:	**8:30**	Wendell Landis*, Bill Comer	*Head Usher
	9:45	Herb McCulloch*, Kim Young	
	11:00	Herb McCulloch*, Harold Crowder, Jeff Marlin, Tommy Petrey, Jonny Phillips	
Donut Disciple:		Laura Hougland	
Nursery:		Carla Adams, Morgan Hall, Vicki Hankins	

Cards for Veterans: As we approach the United States' 250th anniversary on July 4, 2026, a time to reflect on patriotism, faith, freedom, and unity, we invite you to honor our veterans by writing a heartfelt card of appreciation. Your words can make a meaningful difference. Please submit all cards to the Missions Closet or the sharing bin outside the Welcome Center no later than June 28. Please only sign the cards with your first name and do not seal the cards. Thank you for helping us recognize those who have served. POC: Karen Cole

Pint with a Pastor: (*We will NOT be meeting this Sunday, May 10, in observance of Mother's Day.)* Sundays, 3:00 PM at Three Leg Run. Have you ever had a question about faith you were afraid to ask? POC: Pastor Nathan nathandecker@chesterumc.org

Altar Flowers: Consider providing flowers for the altar. We have many dates still available- **June 7, 28; July 5, 19, 26; August 30; September 6, 20, 27; October 18, 25; November 29.** Write your name on the flower chart near the Church Office and fill out one of the flower forms below the chart. Return the form to the Church Office. Or you can call / email the Church Office (748-6006), office@chesterumc.org to reserve a date. You will need to make arrangements with your preferred florist. (River's Bend Florist will waive the delivery fee).

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.

- **The Jean Craig Fellowship**: Meets on the 1st Monday of each month at 7:00 PM, Room 205. POC: Susan Petrey (804) 938-5396.
- **The Ada Mae Bookman Fellowship**: Meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month, 10:30 AM, Room 226. *In lieu of our next meeting, on Thursday, May 14 at 10:30 AM, we will gather for a luncheon at Antonio's Restaurant, 11956 Iron Bridge Plaza.* POC: Martha Miles, (804) 748-5476.

Leading Our Worship Sunday, May 17, 2026

Greeters:	**8:30**	Bill & Karen Comer	
	9:45	Brenda & Jesse Stacy	
	11:00	Martha Miles	
Ushers:	**8:30**	Gordon Morris*, Ron Dombrowski	*Head Usher
	9:45	Beth Stewart*, Pat Stanfield	
	11:00	Gary Williams*, Janis Hargrave, Jane & Bob Huffman, Kay Williams	
Donut Disciples:		Chip & Laurie Cobb	
Nursery:		Carla Adams, Vicki Hankins	

Trinity United Methodist Church and
Chester United Methodist Church

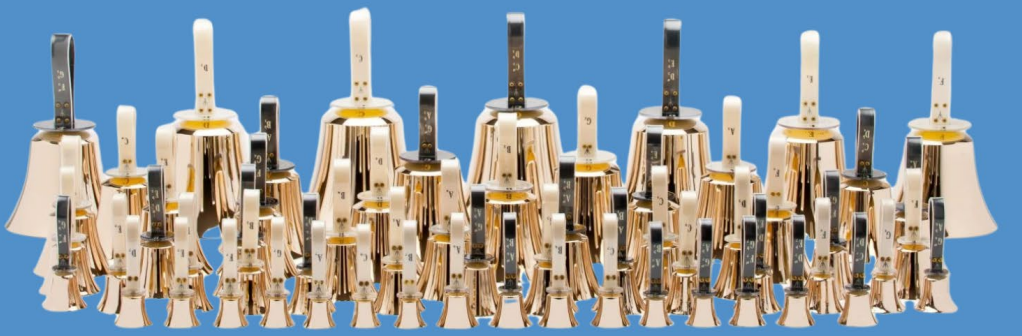
present

Chester Rings!

Sunday, May 17

3:00 PM

6600 Greenyard Road, Chester, VA 23831



The VBS planning team is asking for donations of craft items, decorations, and specific snacks for VBS. Please consider donating selected items that can be found using the QR code below. We appreciate your generosity and couldn't do this without your support!

SUNDAY SMALL GROUPS

Children's Sunday School, Kidz Zone: 9:45 AM. Pre-K (Room 107); K-2 (Room 204) Grades 3-5 (Room 206). Come join our Kidz Zone Ministry.
POC: Whitney Graham, preschool@chesterumc.org

Adult Small Group Bible Study: 9:45 AM, Room 213 "Our Pad". All adults are welcome. POC: 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. 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. Anyone interested in joining us is welcome.
POCs: Sonja Seward (804) 543-3036; Andrew Brummette (678) 409-3683; and Brion Seward 1bseward@comcast.net.

Journey Sunday School Class: 9:45 AM, Youth House 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: Laura Hamm, Laura.hamm83@yahoo.com

Middle & High School, Sunday School Class: 9:45 AM, Youth House.
Grades 6-12. POC: Evan Moody, youthleaders@chesterumc.org

Youth Group: Grades 6^{th}-12^{th}, 4:00 PM -5:30 PM, Youth House. Meets weekly for fun, fellowship and outreach. Snacks are provided.
POC: Evan Moody, youthleaders@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

Bridge Builders- Jail Ministry- Meets every other Monday, 3:40 PM at the Chesterfield County Jail. Help us as we build relationships with the men of HARP (Helping Addicts Recovery Progressively). Maureen Coker, mcoker2003@comcast.net

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: Wednesdays, 2:00 PM, Room 213. A Christ-centered program for those who have lost a loved one within the past two years. Go to GriefShare.org, then click "*Find A Group"*, and message Keith Mottley, keith.mottley@comcast.net or Sandy Sims, sandygeosims@hotmail.com

ESL Classes: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7:00 PM- 8:30 PM. Click on this link: https://sites.google.com/view/cumcenglishclasses POC: Rebecca Hodell, rhodell7@gmail.com

Youth Bible Study: Wednesdays, 5:45 PM- 7:00 PM, Trinity UMC.

Trinity UMC Wacky Wednesdays: Wednesdays, 6:15 PM-7:15 PM, Trinity UMC. Dinner provided.

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. For 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 great food and 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

Young Adult Bible Study, Thursdays, 6:30 PM, Annex. Ages 19-30. Dinner provided. POC: Evan Moody, youthleaders@chesterumc.org

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

United Methodist Men: For men who are seeking to give and receive fellowship, mentorship, and service to Church and community. POC: Brion Seward 1bseward@comcast.com

Jail Ministry: Since March 2023**,** members of Bridge Builders visit men incarcerated at the Chesterfield County Jail for drug and alcohol-related offenses, where we facilitate a book study for the men participating in HARP (Helping Addicts Recover Progressively) program. CUMC is making an impact on our community! How can you help? Provide monetary donations (Jail Ministry in check memo) used for study books, stamps and cards. Become a volunteer. Please pray for the men in the HARP program and those CUMC members volunteering at the jail. POC: Maureen Coker mcoker2003@comcast.net

Monthly Emmaus Gathering: For those who have attended Walk to Emmaus gatherings at any time in their lives. Held on the 2nd Saturday of each month at Hopewell Methodist Church, Chesterfield. Meet at 6:00 PM for a covered dish fellowship, followed at 6:30 PM with worship and communion. POC: Claudia Nagy at (804) 712-7733.
POC: Maureen Coker, mcoker2003@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. Call Susan to sign up to provide a meal. Contact Rest Stop Team Leader, Susan Petrey, at (804) 938-5396, for more information.

Stephen Ministry: 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 someone who could benefit from a Stephen Minister, please contact Steve Osborne, sosbor60@gmail.com.

Church On The Sidelines - Outreach at Chester UMC: We're partnering with First Touch Sports to begin a new ministry, Church on the Sidelines. We'll provide support, services, and advocacy to families involved in the youth soccer organization by offering a welcoming presence and consistent support at games; providing snacks and water for players; sharing information about programs and services the church offers, as well as those offered in the community; practicing intentional listening to fully understand family needs and challenges. POC: Evan Moody, youthleaders@chesterumc.org

Chester UMC Preschool Enrollment for Fall 2026: Now accepting enrollment for half-day, Christian-based preschool, for ages 2.5 up to Junior Kindergarten. Call Whitney Graham today to schedule a preschool tour. POC: Whitney Graham, (804) 748-2275, preschool@chesterumc.org

Summer Camp Opportunities: Did you know there are some awesome opportunities for children and youth to attend summer camps affiliated with the United Methodist Church? Click the links below to explore three camps in different geographical areas of Virginia.
Bay: https://www.ootbay.org/summer-camp-options/
River: https://www.westviewonthejames.org/
Mountains: https://www.altamons.org/

Chester UMC
Preschool
ENROLLING FOR FALL 2026
ACCEPTING ENROLLMENT FOR HALF DAY, CHRISTIAN BASED PRESCHOOL FOR AGES 2.5 UP TO JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN!
CALL TODAY TO SCHEDULE YOUR TOUR
804-748-2275
PRESCHOOL@CHESTERUMC.ORG