the bridge

May 17, 2026 - 9:45 AM

WORSHIP MUSIC
Unclouded Day
Where Could I Go
Love Lifted Me
Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying
Bigger Than Any Mountain

SCRIPTURE
Romans 8:1-2, 18, 38-39 NIV

SPECIAL MUSIC
I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked
Dan Hayes

MESSAGE
United in Christ
Evan Moody

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 17, 2026 - 8:30 AM

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

WORSHIP MUSIC

Let God Arise
What A Friend
Firm Foundation
Power of Your Love
Glory to God Forever

SPECIAL MUSIC

I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked
Dan Hayes

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 23 KJV

MESSAGE

Greatest Hits
Joshua Wortham

May 17, 2026 **A Service of Worship and Praise** **11:00 AM**
Seventh Sunday of Easter

Welcome, Announcements & Greeting

Prelude ***To God Be the Glory*** Organist

* Call to Worship[1] Don Schmidt, Liturgist

Leader: If God is for us, who is against us?
People: He who gave us his son, now gives us the Spirit in power!
Leader: The Holy One is in our midst:
People: equipping us for life in the service of Christ.
Leader: In Christ, we are more than conquerors,
People: for nothing in creation can separate us from the love of God!
Leader: May the all-surpassing grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
People: And the unshakable love of God be with you.
Leader: The joyous communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.
People: And also, with you!

* Hymn No. 384 ***Love Divine, All Loves Excelling***

* Affirmation of Faith No. 887
* 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.

Anthem ***I Stand Amazed*** Chancel Choir

Why We Give

Offertory ***I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked*** Dan Hayes

* 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. 561	***Jesus, United by Thy Grace***	
Scripture	***Romans 8:1-2, 18, 38-39***	NIV
Sermon	***United in Christ***	Evan Moody

* Hymn No. 369 ***Blessed Assurance***
* Benediction
* Choral Amen

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

[1]https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2014/06/responsive-call-to-worship-romans-8-31.html

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of Beverly & Ray Trevillian's 50th wedding anniversary.

Calendar

May 17, 2026– May 24, 2026

Today: Sunday, May 17

8:15 AM Nursery until 12:00 PM
8:30 AM Fresh Start Worship- Fellowship Hall
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 UMC
4:00 PM Youth Group End-of-Year Celebration-Youth House

Monday: May 18

6:30 PM Boy Scouts- DFH

Tuesday: May 19

10:30 AM Joy Singers- Dunlop House
7:00 PM ESL- 205, 214, 221, 226

Wednesday: May 20

12:00 PM Chimes Submissions Due
2:00 PM Grief Share-213
5:45 PM Handbell Choir
5:45 PM Wacky Wed.-Trinity
6:15 PM Youth End-of-Year Party- Trinity UMC
6:30 PM Crew- 206
6:30 PM Girl Scouts- 116
7:00 PM Chancel Choir-Music Suite

Thursday: May 21

9:00 AM Preschool Graduation
11:30 AM Women's Fellowship Lunch- Peking Chester
1:30 PM Prayer Shawl- Parlor
6:30 PM Young Adult Bible Study- Youth House
7:00 PM ESL End-of-Season Celebration- Fellowship Hall

Friday: May 22

10:00 AM Worship Committee- Churchwide

Saturday: May 23

7:00 AM Running for HIS Glory- Church Parking Lot

Next Sunday: May 24- Pentecost Sunday

8:15 AM Nursery until 12:00 PM
8:30 AM Fresh Start Worship- Fellowship Hall
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

Sunday Worship Schedule

May 24 Moses' Dream Come True Numbers 11:24-30 New Living Translation

May 31 The Mission of the Church Matthew 28:16-20 CEB and Matthew 25:31-46 CEB

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: *TODAY, 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. Bring your family and friends!

Pint with a Pastor ***will be on pause for the time being***. We appreciate your participation and will share updates when this ministry is able to resume.

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

Choir Tour 2026: The Chancel Choir is hitting the road this month sharing the Gospel in song! Join us for our **home concert on Sunday, June 7, at 2 PM in the Sanctuary**. Spread the word to friends and family who might be along our concert path and encourage them to attend our concerts. (See insert for a complete list of dates and locations.)

Guatemala Mission Trip Supplies: Mission supplies are needed for the Youth Guatemala Mission Trip this June! Please click the link to sign up to donate supplies. https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/60B0F44AEAB2DA6FE3-58556011-most?useFullSite=false All donations are due by May 25 and can be dropped off in the designated bin located in the Church Mission Closet. POC: Emily Smith Smith.family21@outlook.com

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: The family of John Wilson; Eric Jessee; Pamela Harmison; 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 10, 2026

8:30 AM, Fresh Start.....…108
9:45 AM, Bridge 50
11:00 AM, Traditions.....172
Online.....56
Total……...……386

Leading Our Worship Today, 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	

Vacation Bible School: Vacation Bible School is June 22–26 from 9:00 AM–12:00 PM for children preschool through 5th grade! Adult and youth volunteers are needed and appreciated. Youth are encouraged to help with Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st grade, 2nd–3rd grade, music, snacks, and morning registration. A youth VBS meeting will be held June 5. Use the QR code to register your child and/or sign up to volunteer. Children will explore the story of the Bible through crafts, music, dance, science, recreation, and snacks, while rotating through stations with trusted volunteers and youth staff alongside peers their age. Guaranteed fun every day! This year's theme is ***JUST LIKE ME!*** Each day, children will meet a new member of the Garden Group, discover a new Bible lesson, and build social and spiritual skills that support faith development. POC: Whitney Graham, preschool@chesterumc.org

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. Please submit all cards to the Missions Closet or the sharing bin outside the Welcome Center, no later than June 28. Please sign the cards with first name only and do not seal the cards. Thank you for recognize those who have served. POC: Karen Cole

Toiletries Needed for Men in HARP: Bridge Builders Ministry is seeking ***deodorant, soap, body wash, and shampoo*** for men in the HARP program at Chesterfield County Jail. These supplies are for men leaving jail, and for those who have just arrived and do not yet have a commissary account set up. Place items in the designated bin in the Church Mission Closet. POC: Maureen Coker, mcoker2003@comcast.net

Altar Flowers: Consider providing flowers for the altar. We have many dates still available- **June 28; July 5, 19, 26; August 30; September 6, 20, 27; October 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).

Leading Our Worship Sunday, May 24, 2026

Greeters:	**8:30**	Andy and McDuff Steck 🐾	
	9:45	Stephanie Decker	
	11:00	Jim Rhodes	
Ushers:	**8:30**	Tracey Wright*, Tommy Wright	*Head Usher
	9:45	Will Herrmann*, Pat Stanfield	
	11:00	Will Herrmann*, Marshall Henry, Joan & Steve Osborne, Don Schmidt	
Donut Disciples:		Andy & Eileen Steck	
Nursery:		Carla Adams, Vicki Hankins	

Today!

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 or link below. We appreciate your generosity and couldn't do this without your support!
https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/N9627MN8TESX?ref_=wl_share

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 6th-12th, 4:00 PM -5:30 PM, Youth House. Meets weekly for fun, fellowship and outreach. Snacks are provided. On summer break beginning May 24.
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. Summer break begins on May 27.

Wacky Wednesdays: Wednesdays, 6:15 PM-7:15 PM, Trinity UMC. Summer break begins on May 27.

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

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.

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. POC: Susan Petrey, (804) 938-5396.

- **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. POC: Martha Miles, (804) 748-5476.

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

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/

SUMMER TOUR 2026

CHESTER UNITED METHODIST CHANCEL CHOIR

SUNDAY, JUNE 7 @ 2 PM - HOME CONCERT

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10 @ 7 PM
SPRING HILL UMC, LILLINGTON, NC

THURSDAY, JUNE 11 @ 6 PM
GRACE UMC, WILMINGTON, NC

FRIDAY, JUNE 12 @ 6 PM
THE BRIDGE PRESBYTERIAN, LELAND, NC

SATURDAY, JUNE 13 @ 6 PM
PITTSBORO UMC, PITTSBORO, NC

SUNDAY, JUNE 14 @ 10:30 AM
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, GREENSBORO, NC

SUNDAY, JUNE 14 @ 7 PM
THE GROVE UMC, RADFORD, VA

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