



WELCOME TO

The Weekly Courier

*A weekly newsletter brought to you by the
Cheshire United Methodist Church*

From the Pastor:

Even Birds Care for One Another

"Bang!"

Earlier this week, a loud bang startled me from the living room. When I looked toward the window, I noticed a few feathers stuck to the glass. A woodpecker had flown straight into it, unaware of the invisible obstacle in its path.

I found the bird lying motionless on the ground. I wasn't sure whether it was dead or simply unconscious. So I stayed nearby, watching and wondering whether I would have to remove a lifeless bird or witness it regain consciousness and fly away.

Then something unexpected happened.

A blue jay appeared and approached the fallen woodpecker. Knowing that blue jays and woodpeckers often compete for food, I wondered what would happen next. The blue jay circled the motionless bird and began crying out loudly. Soon, another blue jay joined in, making the same piercing calls.

What were they doing?

As I watched, it seemed as though they were calling out to the woodpecker, urging it to wake up. And remarkably, the woodpecker began moving its head! Once the blue jays noticed the movement, they flew away.

I sat down, quietly thanking God for the unexpected lesson these birds had taught me.

Even birds, despite competing for the same resources, appeared to care for one another. **If birds can respond to another's vulnerability, how much more should we, as human beings, care for one another?**

Jesus reminds us to look at the birds of the air and the flowers of the field (Matthew 6:26-30). God's care extends to all creation, and we, made in God's image, are called not merely to receive that care but to embody it.

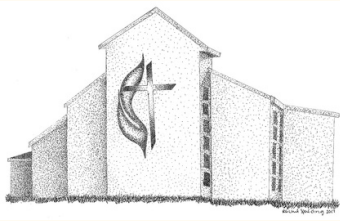
Perhaps our world needs more people willing to notice those who have fallen, draw near rather than turn away, and raise their voices for those who cannot speak for themselves.

It is time to cry out for one another—not to compete, condemn, or divide, but to awaken hope, restore dignity, and nurture life.

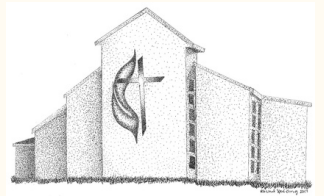
And perhaps, like those blue jays, we are called to remain beside one another until signs of life and hope begin to emerge.



REV. DR. STEVE (YOUNG DONG) KIM
SENIOR PASTOR
CHESHIRE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



This Week At CUMC



OCTOBER 25	WORSHIP, 10:00 A.M.
OCTOBER 25	TRUNK OR TREAT, 3:00 P.M.
OCTOBER 27	SOMETHING NEW, 11:00 A.M.
OCTOBER 27	SPPR, 7:00 P.M.
OCTOBER 28	JUBILATE BELLS, 6:30 P.M.
OCTOBER 28	CHOIR REHEARSAL, 7:30 P.M.
OCTOBER 31	TRUSTEES' WORK DAY, 8:00 A.M.

Our Church Family Celebrations:



OCTOBER 27	GINNY LUDWIG
OCTOBER 29	DIANE GABORC
OCTOBER 31	CARI STRAND



FIND OUT MORE

Volunteers for Worship 10/25:



Usher: Creighton Myers	Visual Arts Creator: Rhonda Pattberg
Ambassador: Jim Jackson	Visual Arts Engineer: Mark Gilleylen
Fellowship: Chris Driscoll	Livestream Tech: Matt Heafy
Promise Kids: Sue Trumbo, Farai Grant	Prayer Cards: Chris Driscoll
Nursery (0-5): Claire Strand	Member Outreach: Elizabeth Thomas
Counters: Ruth Veleber, Joe Driscoll	Lector: Mara Weed

TRUNK OR TREAT THIS WEEK



Trunk or Treat will be held at CUMC **THIS SUNDAY**, October 25th, from 3:00-4:30 p.m. All are invited to attend: donate candy, set up a trunk, bring a trick-or-treater, be a part of the fun and excitement! If you'll be decorating a car, please arrive by 2:00 p.m. and park near the parsonage

PROMISE TEACHERS MEETINGS:



The **Promise Teachers** will be meeting in the Faithful Thomas Room immediately following worship on Sunday, October 25th. For those unable to attend in person, there will be a Zoom Meeting on October 29th at 7:00 p.m.

SOMETHING NEW:



Something New will be meeting on Tuesday, October 27th, at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

SPPR MEETING:



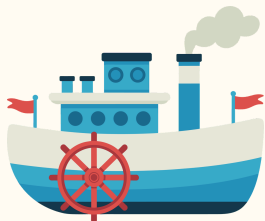
SPR will be meeting on Tuesday, October 27th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Faithful Thomas Room.

APPLE PIE SALES:



Apple pie sales have begun! Orders must be in by Nov. 1st. Orders will be ready for pick up on Nov. 15th with pie making the day before, Nov. 14th. You won't want to miss out on CUMC's good, old homemade apple pie (If you know, you sang it just like in Lazarus)! Find the order form [here](#).

COOPERATIVE PARISH BOAT CRUISE!:



Reservations have closed for the Cooperative Parish Riverboat Cruise! **Please make sure to have your payment in by THIS SUNDAY, October 25th**. We are looking forward to a great time of fellowship. For those who have signed up, the details are below:

Date: Saturday, November 7, 2026

Time: 11:30-2:30 (boarding begins at 11:15a.m.)

Where: Lady Kate Dock Location

Eagle Landing State Park

14 Little Meadow Rd.

Haddam, CT 06438

Cost: \$42 per person, included in the menu:

Passed Appetizers, Buffet Lunch, Beverages, and

Dessert (You can see the full menu near the sign up sheet.)

MUSIC MESSAGE:



This Sunday, we will sing **“Change My Heart/Lord, Be Glorified.”** Eddie Espinosa wrote “Change My Heart, O God” in 1982 during a season of spiritual complacency. While driving to work, he prayed for God to change the desires that were drawing him away and quickly wrote the song on a small piece of paper. Bob Kilpatrick’s “Lord, Be Glorified,” written in 1978, is a simple prayer of dedication, asking God to be glorified in our lives, our songs, and our church.

Together, these songs remind us that living like Jesus begins with inward transformation and becomes visible through lives that glorify God. As we sing, may this be our own prayer:
“Change my heart, O God, and be glorified in me.”

■ Please continue to fill out an orange hymn-request form and share a hymn you would like the congregation to sing. We look forward to including the songs that are especially meaningful to you.

PROMISE KIDS UPDATE:

We are already approaching the end of October! As the weather and seasons change, our daily routines change as well. Yet in every season, we are reminded to continue learning how to live like Jesus.

This Sunday, we will have a special opportunity to share sweet treats, welcome others, and enjoy fellowship at our **Trunk or Treat** event. Your family's participation will make the celebration even more joyful as we come together as a church community!

Promise Kids will also begin learning more about the Bible starting this Sunday. We look forward to starting this new adventure together and seeing everyone there!

LAST SUNDAY TO COLLECT YAMS!!!:

The weather is getting cooler, the leaves changing colors, and the days are getting shorter. Halloween is next week and then Thanksgiving is right around the corner.

The Cheshire Food Pantry is working ahead of the holiday to make sure that all 359 Cheshire residents needing assistance with food have a festive Thanksgiving dinner. 160 families are counting on CUMC to help make that happen.

Our church has committed to supplying 200 cans of canned yams for these family celebrations. We have 70 collected.

We need 130 more cans of yams by THIS Sunday, October 25th.

If you can help us get to our goal, it would be most appreciated.

If you would like to help but would prefer to give a monetary donation instead of going shopping, call or text Jennifer Roeder at 203-444-4067.

BAKE OFF RESULTS:

The **Cooperative Parish Bake-Off** on October 18th at Asbury United Methodist Church raised \$176 toward our collective goal of buying an ark for Heifer International. Carol Taft from Grace UMC came in 1st with her yummy Pistachio Bars. **Our own Leann Spalding got 2nd place for her amazingly decorated and delicious Caramel Cake**, and Gardner Wright from Asbury got 3rd place for his scrumptious Carrot Cake.

Special thanks to Leann & Sue Trumbo for sharing their baking talents and representing CUMC with their sweet delights!!

CLOTHESLINE FUNDRAISER:



Due to the success of our clothesline fundraiser, we will be keeping the donation period OPEN! We have already raised **\$9,414**! What a blessing for our church. Now, let's keep it going. Thank you for your continuous support for CUMC and its ministries.

TRUSTEES' WORK DAY:



It is time for the **Trustees' Annual Fall Work Day**! It will be held on Saturday, October 31st at 8:00 a.m. until completion. The Trustees will be working inside and outside of our building to do a clean-up/reorganization before winter. A list of items they're hoping to accomplish can be found [here](#). As we are a family, all are invited to lend a hand. Many hands make light work!

SHELTER NOW VOLUNTEERS



Looking for **2 volunteers** to make breakfast sandwiches for the residents of Shelter Now in Meriden Sat, **November 14th, 8:30-10am.**

(This is also the day for apple pie making, so if you are involved with that, please keep that in mind.)

MEDIA MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY NEW DATE!!!

Sign-up for a Scripture Reading Video Session with Cole Jackson for CUMC's Media Ministry!



Are there any bible verses that stand out to you as particularly meaningful or memorable? Do you have a favorite? Is there a moment in your life reflected in scripture? Was there a particular verse that changed your life? Let's share it with our community and help build a critical part of CUMC's Media Ministry!

Each filming session takes only 10 to 20 minutes of your time. No experience necessary and the scripture need not be memorized. Bring yourself, your scripture, why it is important to you, and of course, bring your faith! **Please see the newest recording date below!**

Time slots are still available:

Saturday, November 14th 12:00-1:20 p.m.

Sign-up & additional details:

<https://tacticalfocusmedia.pixieset.com/booking/scripture-reading-video-session>

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY:

There is an opportunity for our church community to participate in the **Habitat for Humanity of Greater New Haven's Build Day!**



This event will taking place on December 12th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at 246/248 Barnes Ave. New Haven, CT

To sign-up, please visit habitatgnh.org and click the VolunteerUp link at the bottom of the page. New Volunteers will need to select Cheshire United Methodist Church as their group in their Volunteer Profile prior to signing up for this build day. Carpooling can be arranged for those interested.

For any further information, please speak with Matti Lilback.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD:



Samaritan's Purse sends gift-filled **Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes** to children in need around the world together with the message of Jesus Christ. There are boxes available in the narthex, if you would like to be a part of this ministry. Before taking a box, please make sure that you know all the details of how to fill the boxes & what not to include. **Boxes need to be returned by Sun, Nov 22nd with \$10 for shipping** (attach envelope with cash to outside of box).

Go to: <http://www.samaritanspurse.org> for more info, including how to track your box to see where it ends up.

Please keep in mind that Fridays are the Pastor's Sabbath. Unless it's a pastoral emergency, please call the office at 203-272-4626 or email office@cheshireumc.com and it will be addressed ASAP. Thank you!



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