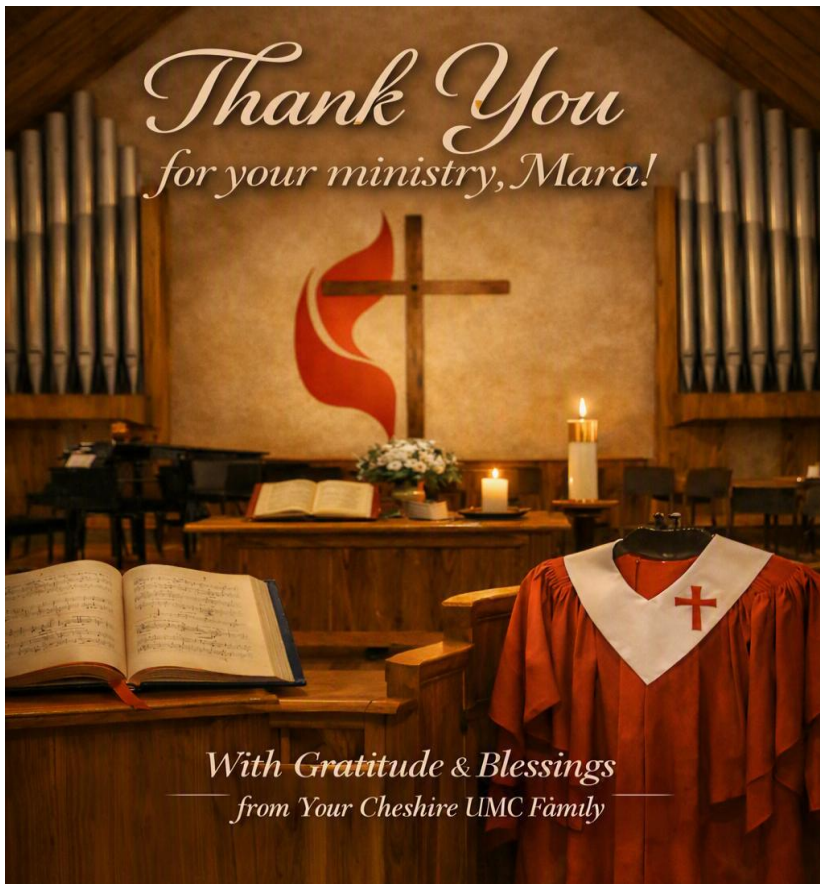




CHESHIRE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

205 Academy Road, Cheshire, CT 06410
(203) 272-4626 www.cheshireumc.com



@cheshireumc



@cheshire.umc



@CheshireUnitedMethodistChurch

Welcome to the Cheshire United Methodist Church.

All are welcome (all means all)!

The Reverend Doctor Steve Y.D. Kim, *Pastor* pastor@cheshireumc.com

Mara M. Weed, *Music Director*

Kaitlin Heuser, *Admin. Assistant* office@cheshireumc.com

Lisa Moran, *Sexton*

Rose Kim, *Director of Christian Education* promisekids@cheshireumc.com

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 30, 2026

10:00 A. M.

HYMN SING

Mara Weed

OPENING PRAYER

WORDS OF WELCOME

The Pastor

♦CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Leader: Jesus calls us to follow him.

People: We come ready to listen and follow.

Leader: Jesus calls us beyond comfort and self-interest.

People: Teach us the way of courageous love.

Leader: Jesus calls us to take up the cross and discover true life.

People: Help us release what we cling to and trust in you.

Leader: Come, let us worship the One who leads us through the cross toward resurrection.

All: We will follow Christ and walk in the way of love.

♦OPENING HYMN #338 (vs. 1,2, refrain, vs. 3,4, refrain)

“Where He Leads Me”

♦PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious God, we thank you for Jesus Christ, who shows us that true life is found not in holding tightly to ourselves but in giving ourselves in love. Thank you for meeting us in our fears, loosening our grip on the things we cannot control, and calling us toward a life of compassion, courage, and generosity. Give us faith to follow Christ when the road is difficult, courage to love when love costs something, and trust that the way of the cross always leads toward resurrection. Shape our lives into signs of your grace, so that through us others may discover your life and love. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

CHILDREN’S HYMN

“Rise and Shine”

CONVERSATION WITH THE CHILDREN & THE LORD’S PRAYER

“Jesus Loves Me”

(ushers collect green prayer cards)

THE FIRST LESSON (p. 476 OT)

Psalms 26: 1-8 (responsive)

♦THE GOSPEL LESSON (p. 17 NT)

Matthew 16: 21-28 (responsive)

SERMON

“LET GO. FOLLOW. FIND LIFE.”

SPECIAL MUSIC

“You Can Rest”
Michele Bloom

Hillary Scott

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERTORY
♦Doxology #95, Prayer of Dedication and Altar Call

♦CLOSING HYMN #453

“More Love to Thee, O Christ”

♦THE BENEDICTION

♦PASSING OF THE PEACE
♦Stand, if you are able

<i>Usher:</i> Creighton Myers	<i>Visual Arts Creator:</i> Rhonda Pattberg
<i>Ambassador:</i> Jim Jackson	<i>Visual Arts Engineer:</i> Mark Gilleylen
<i>Fellowship:</i> SPR	<i>Livestream Tech:</i> Matt Heafy
<i>Member Outreach:</i> Carolyn Kelly	<i>Counters:</i> Michele Bloom, Dave Wendt
<i>Prayer Cards:</i> Susan King	
<i>Nursery and Promise Kids:</i> Rose Kim, Caroline Veleber	

Announcements

The **altar flowers** are given to the Glory of God by SPR in honor of Mara Weed’s final Sunday as our Music Director and in gratitude faithful service to our congregation.

Fellowship Time today will be hosted by SPR in honor of Mara Weed’s music ministry.

There will be a **Pickleball Meet-up** this afternoon at 4:00 p.m. at Cheshire Park. Please see Tiffany Russo for more details.

There will be a **Trustees** meeting on Tuesday, September 1st, at 7:00 p.m. in the Faithful Thomas Room.

Our **Clothesline Fundraiser** is running now through Labor Day. We have already raised **\$7519**. Wow! How it works: Choose any of the 150 numbered envelopes (plus children’s decorated envelopes). The number is the minimum donation placed inside. Please provide your name so we can give you credit for your donations. Pastor Steve will share weekly updates as we work to “clear the line!” Filling every envelope would raise \$11,325 for our church! What a blessing.

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.

Welcome!

We are a Welcoming and Reconciling congregation. Rooted in God's love, we affirm the dignity and worth of every person and seek to live Christ's call to compassion, justice, healing, and wholeness. We welcome people of all races, ages, genders, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, nationalities, abilities, family structures, and social or economic backgrounds into the full life and leadership of the church. We believe we can love alike even when we do not think alike, and we invite all to share in worship, ministry, fellowship, and the sacraments as we grow together in faith and love.

Who We Are . . .

We are a church family that welcomes all, regardless of political views or Christian perspectives, because we belong to the one family of God. Though we may not always agree, we commit to loving, forgiving, honoring our differences, and serving together as we live out the Gospel of God's love revealed in Jesus Christ. Guided by Micah 6:8, we strive to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.