

THE WEEKLY COURIER

A weekly newsletter brought to you by Cheshire United Methodist Church

VOL. 2, ISSUE 5

2.3.2019

Coming soon...



Pulpit Prep
February 4, 2019
7:30 p. m.



Secret Sister Reveal
February 5, 2019
6-8:00 p. m.



Church Council Meeting
February 12, 2019
7:30 p. m.



Valentine's Day
College Candy
Deadline February 8

From Our Pastor



I was stunned when I attended a UM clergy conference in NY this past Monday & Tuesday and actually learned something - something that would give me great clarity and sense of purpose in most everything I do as your pastor. And the best part is, I can sum it up for you in just TWO words - undo aloneness.

That's right! It suddenly occurred to me (after more than 30 years in the ministry, mind you) that one of the primary purposes of worship and mission and fellowship and evangelism and pastoral counseling and youth ministry and hospital visitation and preaching and just about everything we do together is to undo aloneness. Yours, mine and everyone's.

Never before had I been able to so accurately and concisely and precisely explain to myself (and hopefully my congregation) our "raison d'être" as members of the Body of Christ. It's to help undo aloneness, in my humble opinion.

But that's just me. What do YOU think?

As it turns out, you CAN teach an old dog new tricks.

Helping out Sunday Morning, February 3rd...

| | | | |
|----------------------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Lector: | Elaine Lau | Ushers: | Joe Bogacki, Sergio Deganis |
| Acolyte: | Gary DeVilbis | Counters: | Carol Hotz, Matt Heafy |
| Bible Bearer: | Derrick DeVilbis | Fellowship Hour: | Jeff Clark |
| Prayer Cards: | Kathy Esposito | Nursery: | Sally LaRusso, Carla Reagan |
| PowerPoint: | Rachel Spalding | Sunday School: | Dot Mattson, Renée Poet |
| Outreach: | Bruce King | Communion Stewards: | Don and Mary Bogrette |

This Week at a Glance...



- 2/3 - Explorers Class at 9 a. m. in Room A
- 2/4 - Pulpit Prep; 7:30 p. m. (Luke 5: 1-11)
- 2/5 - Secret Sister Reveal Gathering; Vespucci's at 6 p. m.
- 2/6 - Choir Rehearsal; 7:30 p. m.
- 2/7 - Prayer Shawl Ministry; 7 p. m.

Pulpit Prep This Week



Our next meeting will be this Monday, Pulpit Prep meets in Room B at 7:30 p m. Pastor Ken will lead the class in a study and discussion of the passage on which he will be preaching the following Sunday. (Luke 5: 1-11). Join us!

Valentine's Day College Candy



It's almost Valentine's Day - just the right time to remind our college students that we are thinking of them with a box of sweet treats! There is a large Valentine's box in the narthex - please drop off your donations of small candies, cookies, health bars and other sweets no later than Friday, February 8. I will pack, address and seal the boxes, so they are ready for mailing. They can be picked up on Sunday, February 10 right after church service by anyone who would like to drop one in the mail. Many thanks for your continued support of this Cheshire UMC ministry.

Ginny Ludwig

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Super Bowl Sub [and Salad] Fundraiser



If you ordered Super Bowl subs or salads from the Youth Group, please pick them up following worship this Sunday. Thanks for your support of their UMARMY mission trip.

Secret Sister Reveal Get Together...



A quick reminder:

This Tuesday from 6-8:30 p. m. at Vespucci's Restaurant (150 Main Street in Cheshire). With Valentine's Day just around the corner, consider one last note to your Secret Sister.

Altar Flower Gifts and Dedications...



Will you consider an Altar Flower gift in honor of or in memory of a loved one or special life event? We are currently soliciting for February and March. Your gift is noted in the bulletin and placed on display, on the altar, for the duration of our worship service. After worship you may take your arrangement home with you or bless someone else. Lastly, you may provide your own arrangement, you are not required to use our florist's services. Sign-up in the Narthex or Fellowship Hall using the form provided or see Lisa Moran. Thanks!

Something New Group



You are invited to be a part of the Something New group which meets in the church fellowship hall on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 11:00 AM to enjoy casual conversation over a cup of coffee or tea. Bring a favorite mug and snack or lunch if you'd like and join the social time! All ages are welcome! The group will meet on Tuesday, February 26th at 11:00 AM in the church fellowship hall.

Coordinators, Chris Driscoll, Ginny Ludwig, and Marge Jordan

Explorers Group



EXPLORE a new topic! On Sundays at 9 a.m. an interesting group of people will begin a series of dvd and exploration activities on the theme Christianity and World Religions. The author/producer is Adam Hamilton who is familiar to some from other topics that we have explored at church. The subtitle is Wrestling with Questions People Ask. The series includes these religions: Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, and Christianity.

We look forward to the sharing of curiosity, insights, discoveries, meaning as the group meets. As always, no background or preparation is needed. We have found that our curiosity may carry us into the weekdays though! You are invited once or every time! Let's wrestle with questions people ask about Christianity and World Religions.

Coordinators are Len Mecca, Carolyn Hardin Engelhardt, and Sergio Deganis.

Fellowship Hour Hosts Needed!



Will you host a Fellowship Hour? We are requesting singles, couples, and families to host or co-host a Fellowship Hour on Sundays in February or March. If you are willing and available, please see Kim Farraiolo or Karen Kieffer. You may also use the "[Contact Us](#)" form on-line, or sign-up in Fellowship Hall. Thank you!

Our AmazonSmile account is NOW active!



AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Cheshire UMC every time you shop, at no additional cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to Cheshire UMC. To make it easy for you, our direct link is [here](#). Thank you.

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Health Center Driver Wanted

Cheshire Academy Health Center is looking for a part time Health Center driver, with a current CT driver's license, to transport students to outpatient local health care appointments. The driver would need to obtain a Student Transportation License which just requires some additional paperwork and routine physical examinations that Cheshire Academy pays for.

This is a paid position and perfect for a retired person who enjoys teenagers. The hours are minimal and varied – it might only be a few hours a week during the academic year and the driver can always decline to drive. The hours and appointment can vary from week to week. That is why we like to have multiple part time drivers. We currently have 2 part time drivers but our third driver needed to “officially” retire due to health reasons.

Claire Strand is one of our drivers and would love to speak to anyone that is interested.

If there are several people that are interested, that would be great too!

Thank you for your consideration.

Deb Bond

Prayer Shawl Ministry at Cheshire UMC



Come to church, and join us on the first Thursday of every month for an evening of God's handiwork from 7 to 9 p. m. Learn to crochet and/or knit. All are welcome and no experience is needed. Bring your choice of knitting needles, crochet hook, or both. Practice yarn will be available. [Our Next Meeting is February 7, 2019.](#)

Shelter Now: Food Donations and Volunteers Needed



The Missions Committee is looking for food donations to prepare for the residents at Shelter Now in Meriden. All donations should be left in the kitchen/refrigerator [by Friday, February 8th](#), and marked "for shelter".

- 6 Dozen Eggs
- 5 Packages of Bacon
- 72 Slices of Cheese (American/Cheddar)
- 72 English Muffins
- 2 Gallons of Juice

The Committee is also looking for 2 to 3 volunteers to help cook breakfast at the shelter in Meriden from 7:30-9:30am on the following dates:

- Saturday, February 9th
- Saturday, March 9th
- Saturday, April 13th

Contact Jennifer Roeder at jlynroeder@aol.com OR text/call (203) 444-4067. Thank you!

Men's Book Club



Cheshire UMC Men's Book Club will be meeting on Thursday, February 28 at 7:30 pm. Host and book to be decided.

Booklettes Book Club



Booklettes Women's Book Club will meet on Thursday February 21 at the home of Vanda O'Reilly, 125 Thorn Hollow Rd. at 7:30 pm. We will be discussing Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson.

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Mission Opportunity / Volunteers Needed...



Acts 4 Ministry in Waterbury is seeking some new volunteers. There are opportunities for (1) personal shoppers to help our clients find the sizes and articles of clothing they need; and (2) volunteers to help in the warehouse with taking in furniture and donations, recycling trash or metal, furniture repair, and several other duties. If you are interested, you can **contact Renee Poet at reeneepoet@comcast.net or (203)758-0293, or contact Acts 4 directly at (203) 574-2287.** If you have even a couple of hours a week or every other week to spare during the day, this can be very rewarding.

UM ARMY 2019: Time to Register...



Jennifer Roeder will be the UM ARMY coordinator again this year. If you are interested in attending one of the camps, contact her by phone; call/text 203-444-4067, or e-mail; jlynnroeder@aol.com, or see her at church. [More details on-line...](#)

Helping out Next Sunday Morning, February 10th...

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Lector: | Sue Trumbo | Ushers: | Diane Gaborc, Joe Bogacki |
| Bible Bearer: | Alyssa Carey | Counters: | Kim Ferraiolo, Joe Driscoll |
| Prayer Cards: | Ginny Ludwig | Nursery: | Barb Heafy, Carla Reagan |
| Outreach: | Bruce King | Sunday School: | Jennifer Roeder, Sally LaRusso |

January Birthdays...



27 Keith Lanzer
29 Alyssa Carey
29 Marc LaComb
29 Jamie Wetmore

February Birthdays...



| | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 2 Gerry Connelly | 14 Laurie Bellagamba |
| 2 Mathew Thomas | 19 Mary Bogrette |
| 3 Eva Witkowski | 21 Debbie Eckert |
| 5 Ned Connelly | 22 Liam Moran |
| 5 Jennifer Meriam | 23 Hunter Carey |
| 6 Matthew Cameron | 23 Mary Helming |
| 7 Sophia Iacono | 23 Zach Warner |
| 10 Jack Hanke | 27 Sally LaRusso |
| 11 Michael Bova | 28 Tim Simmons |
| 12 Daniel Desmond | 28 Creighton Myers |
| 13 Paul Bellagamba | |

February Anniversaries...



9 Ned & Gerry Connelly

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