

THE WEEKLY COURIER

A weekly newsletter brought to you by Cheshire United Methodist Church

VOL. 9 ISSUE 2

JANUARY 11, 2026

Coming soon to our sanctuary . . .



Join us on Sunday for worship at 10:00 a.m.



Church Council will meet on Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.



Blood Drive, Thursday, 12:30-5:30 p.m.



Check out our new YouTube channel — link on our website. See page 3 for update.

From Our Pastor



God with us.

It still catches me off guard when I open the Bible and run into books that feel distant or, frankly, dull. Numbers is a classic example for me. There are pages filled with numbers, and I sometimes find myself wondering, respectfully, how they still speak to us today. For a long time, the Book of Lamentations sat in the same category. It follows Jeremiah and bears witness to the destruction of Jerusalem in 586 BCE, but at first glance it feels heavy, bleak, and hard to enter.

Yet Lamentations is made up of five poems, four of them carefully shaped as acrostics, each verse following the Hebrew alphabet in order. That detail matters more than I first realized. It tells me that grief is not just chaotic screaming into the void. It can be disciplined. It can be ordered. Even despair can be spoken with intention. Pain is given a form, and a broken heart is offered a way, however fragile, to begin putting itself back together. It is chaotic now; order in the Chaos.

What arrested my attention this time, especially in light of our world today, was the figure of “Daughter Zion.” The city of God is imagined as a woman who has lost everything. Her children, her home, her dignity, even the life she once fought to protect in the face of violence. Her suffering is not abstract. It is personal, embodied, and public.

I find myself grieving deeply whenever fellow human beings die before their time feels complete. Who am I to know, or worse, to decide, when someone’s life should end? I am dust, after all, and to dust I will return, back to the embrace of the earth that formed me.

I return to Lamentations today not to romanticize pain, suffering or injustice. That will never be the point. I return to it as a prayer. A prayer that sounds less like answers and more like truth spoken slowly, carefully, one letter at a time, for a broken world that still longs to be heard. Hope remains. Love still speaks. God is with us.

Rev. Dr. Steve (Young Dong) Kim
Senior Pastor
Cheshire United Methodist Church

Our Week at a Glance . . .



January 11 Worship, 10:00 a.m.
 13 Church Council, 7:00 p.m.
 15 Blood Drive, 12:30-5:30 p.m.

Our Church Family Celebrations



14 Doug VanWie
 15 Gianna Weed
 15 Daniel Kim
 17 Cindy Attanasio



13 Carl and Claire Strand

Missions Opportunities:

Winter Warmth Collection — December 28th-January 18th

We are collecting new & gently used **winter clothing items & blankets** for men, women, & children:

Blankets, throws, comforters, quilts

Coats, gloves/mittens, scarves, hats

Winter clothes: long sleeve shirts, sweatshirts, sweaters, heavy-weight pants, long johns, warm socks, boots

Church Council — January 13



Church Council meet Tuesday, January 13 at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. This will be our Annual Meeting. All are encouraged to attend. Minutes from the December meeting are [here](#).

Blood Drive — January 15



We are holding a blood drive on Thursday, Jan. 15 from 12:30-5:30 p.m. Please contact Sue Trumbo for further details.

Booklettes — January 20



Booklettes Women's Book Club will have their first meeting of the new year on January 20, meeting in The Faithful Thomas Room at 7:00 p.m. Our first book of the year is *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio. This is a contemporary children's novel with a great message. Join us as the Booklettes begin a new year.

From our Technology Committee



We have a new YouTube channel and we encourage you to check it out. Links are available on our church's website to access both our worship services in real-time as well as archived services beginning this past July. **Open YouTube, search Cheshire United Methodist Church, then hit Subscribe for easy access.** You can turn on Notifications to be notified when a new service is uploaded. Let's up our subscriber count.

From our Education Committee



Our Education Department is in need of one additional Sunday School teacher. The requirement is one Sunday a month you will work with an experienced teacher to help provide the foundation of Christian Education for our young children. Please speak with Brian Sullivan, Lianne Adamczyk or Steve with your interest.

Cheshire Creation Care Event—Jan. 12



Please keep in mind that Fridays are the Pastor's Sabbath. Unless it's a pastoral emergency, please call the church office (203-272-4626) if you are in need of something on Fridays. Thank you.