

THE WEEKLY COURIER

A weekly newsletter brought to you by Cheshire United Methodist Church

VOL. 9 ISSUE 8

FEBRUARY 22, 2026

Coming soon to our Sanctuary:



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



Something New will be meeting on 2/24 at 11:00 a.m.



The Safety Task Force will be meeting on 2/26 at 7:00 p.m.



Check out our new YouTube channel — link on our website.



From Our Pastor:

"What is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?"

That line lingers because it refuses to let us drift. Life is not disposable. It is not random clutter in the universe. It is precious. Always has been. In this moment of history, perhaps we feel that more sharply than ever.

Human dignity is not a sentimental idea. It stands at the heart of our public life, written into the Constitution as inalienable rights. And it stands at the heart of faith, where each person is seen as bearing the image of God. On one hand, we defend dignity. On the other hand, we ask what we will do with the life we have been given. A precious life is not only protected. It is purposed.

Jesus once told his closest friends that anyone who wants to be great must become the servant of all. A ruler may command many people, and not everyone will follow. A servant, however, can serve everyone. Whether the service is received or not, it is still offered. That is the quiet power of love in action.

Ministry simply means service. So let us adjust Mary Oliver's question and ask it again: What is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious ministry?

We are in the season of Lent—forty days from Ash Wednesday to Easter (excluding six Sundays). Lent invites honesty and humility. It asks us to name what is broken in us and around us. It calls us to take responsibility for harm and to admit that we cannot fix ourselves by willpower alone. Yet Lent is not despair. It turns us toward hope. It reminds us that God meets us in our need and reshapes us to live with justice, mercy, and love.

This season is an opportunity to consider our plans for service. Some are already living into that calling. Some may need a gentle nudge. Some may simply need to remember. Wherever you find yourself, hold this steady truth: before we ever chose to serve, we were served. Christ gave himself first.

A precious life becomes even more luminous when it becomes a life poured out for others.

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

Our Week at a Glance . . .



February 22 Worship, 10:00 a.m.
 24 Something New, 11:00 a.m.
 26 Safety Task Force, 7:00 p.m.

Our Church Family Celebrations



22 Liam Moran
 23 Hunter Carey
 23 Mary Helming
 23 Zach Warner
 27 Sally LaRusso
 28 Creighton Myers

Something New:



Something New will be meeting on February 24th at 11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Safety Task Force:



The Safety Task Force will be meeting on February 26th at 7:00 p.m. in the Faithful Thomas Room

Missions Project: Blessing Bags for the Homeless, LAST WEEK FOR DONATIONS

Please consider donating to our collection of necessity items for the homeless. We will collect **through Sunday, February 22nd**. After services on the 22nd, everyone will be invited to pack gallon-size Zip-lock bags with several items and note of encouragement for members of the church to put in their car and hand out when they come across someone in need at a shopping plaza, near a highway exit, etc.. If you would like to support the effort but would prefer to give a **cash/check donation**, please give to **Jennifer Roeder**.

Suggestions for Donations:

Individually wrapped non-perishable food items:

- *Small Water Bottles
- *Beef Jerky
- *Peanut Butter Crackers
- *Tuna w/Crackers
- *Protein Bars
- *Dried Fruit, Raisins
- *Trail Mix
- *Ready to Eat Soup (w/pop top and a spoon)

Hygiene Items:

- *toothbrush, toothpaste
- *cloth or semi-cloth band-aids
- *Disposable wipes, Wet Ones
- *Sun screen (small bottles)
- *Nail clippers
- *Tissues
- *Hand lotion
- *Disposable Razors
- *Small note pad &Pen
- *Sandwich-sized Ziplock baggies
- *Gloves
- *Individual dose Aspirin, Tylenol, Advil

**Stay away from cans without pop tops, chocolate/sugary items, gum nuts, anything hard to chew (many homeless people develop dental issues)

Secret Sisters:

Secret Sisters 2026/2027

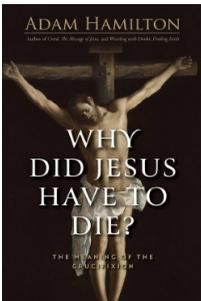
TOP SECRET

Secret Sisters is an opportunity to pray for, think of and let another woman know that she is special. Shower her with notes, cards, and surprises- in your own unique way- throughout the year and on her special days, without letting her know it's you.

A new year of Secret Sisters will begin in March. Complete the form [here](#), and place in the offering plate through Sunday, March 1st. The Secret Sister assignment will take place immediately following, and you will be notified of your Secret Sister via email/snail mail if you don't have an email.

There will be a Secret Sister Reveal Dinner in February 2027! If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Roeder (jlynnroeder@aol.com or 203-444-4067). Secret Sister is an all-age inclusive opportunity for ALL sisters in Christ!

Lenten Study Starting this week!:



Pastor Steve will be leading a Lenten Bible Study entitled "Why Did Jesus Have to die?" The study will meet on Monday evenings at 7 p.m., beginning February 23rd and concluding March 30th. The cost of materials is \$20. You may make checks payable to the Cheshire United Methodist Church with "Lenten Study" noted in the memo line. Registration is required and may be completed through the church office. Please note space is limited.

We are looking for a Christian Education Director:



We are excited to introduce the new position of Christian Education Director at CUMC made possible by a very generous gift. This qualified individual will oversee the operation of developing our Sunday school/youth programming while working closely with our co-chairs and teachers.

We would like to offer the opportunity to those in our church family first before posting externally. If you are interested and have the skills and expertise necessary, SPR would love to hear from you as soon as possible. We will interview and fill the position with the most qualified individual.

For further details, please refer to the job description of Christian Education Director [here](#). Please contact Barb Heafy SPR Chair, bheafy58@gmail.com or at 203-494-5542.

PowerPoint Help Needed!



We are in need of additional volunteers to assist with enhancing the PowerPoint presentation used in worship. This role primarily involves creative embellishment—bringing beauty, cohesion, and visual warmth to our slides. If you have a gift for design or visual presentation, or are even just willing to learn, we invite you to consider sharing your time and talents to help make our worship experience even more meaningful and engaging. Please see Matt Heafy or Pastor Steve for more information.

Pastoral Visitation:



If you are interested in scheduling a pastoral visitation with Pastor Steve, you are invited to sign up for a time that is convenient for you! Please click [here](#) to view the available time slots. An additional sign-up sheet will also be set up outside of the sanctuary to fill in your desired slot. If you are unable to attend worship in person and would like to arrange a visitation, you may contact the church office or Pastor Steve directly.

Nursery help needed:



Will you consider volunteering one Sunday in our CUMC nursery? This is an important ministry at CUMC, which Barb Heafy coordinates. The nursery needs to be staffed by two volunteers each Sunday. Please see Barb if you're interested in supervising of the nursery fun!

Sign ups for Altar Flowers and Fellowship:



We have many open sign up slots for Altar Flowers and Fellowship hour. Sign-up sheets for **altar flowers** can be found just outside the sanctuary and **coffee hour hosts** sign-ups can be found in Fellowship Hall Ask someone to host fellowship time with you! Flower orders are \$65.



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.



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.

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