

THE WEEKLY COURIER

A weekly newsletter brought to you by Cheshire United Methodist Church

VOL. 9 ISSUE 12

MARCH 22, 2026

Coming soon to our Sanctuary:



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



Something New will be meeting on 3/24 at 11:00 a.m.



Safety Task force will be meeting on 3/26 at 7:00 p.m.



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



From Our Pastor:

A quiet comeback

Many of you know that I have been coaching Daniel's 3rd and 4th grade basketball team this season. The boys made it all the way to the championship game. We did not win, but there was still so much to celebrate—their growth, their teamwork, and the way they played with heart.

Coaching taught me something new. Playing basketball and coaching basketball are very different experiences. As a player, you focus on running, shooting, and controlling your own actions. As a coach, you step back. You watch the flow of the game, think ahead, care for each player, and offer encouragement from the sidelines.

During the playoffs, I noticed something about the team. At their age, they can already sense when a game is slipping away. Disappointment comes quickly. But what stood out most were the moments when they made a comeback. There was no single dramatic turning point. Instead, something shifted quietly. They began to trust each other more. Their passes became more confident. Their shots more willing. Their energy lifted as they cheered one another on. That shared encouragement made a real difference.

Lent speaks to that kind of journey.

Lent is not about defeat. It is not about losing. It is a season that invites us into honesty, into moments of challenge, vulnerability, and uncertainty. It slows us down so we do not rush past what is difficult or uncomfortable. Instead of avoiding those places, we are invited to stay with them, to learn from them, and to grow through them.

In many ways, Lent prepares us for a deeper kind of comeback. Not a quick turnaround, but a meaningful one. A transformation that happens beneath the surface before it becomes visible.

And then, often when we least expect it, we find ourselves standing before something new, like an empty tomb. A place that once held loss now speaks of life. A quiet but powerful reminder that comeback is closer than it seems.

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

Our Week at a Glance . . .



March	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



24	Levi Heuser
26	Shannon Cameron
26	Andy DeBoer
27	Nathan Trumbo
27	Dot Mattson



22 Mark & Hui-chen DeVilbiss

Something New:



Something New will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall on Tuesday, 3/24, at 11:00 a.m.

Safety Task Force:



The Safety Task Force will be meeting in the Faithful Thomas Room on Thursday, 3/26, at 7:00 p.m.

Palm Sunday Brunch NEXT SUNDAY:



Join us on Sunday, March 29th, for a special Palm Sunday Brunch immediately following worship. As we begin Holy Week with shouts of, "Hosanna!" and hearts full of praise, let us continue the morning in joyful fellowship around the table.



We are seeking donations of brunch food items (bacon, eggs, fruit juices, and other basics) to help make this gathering possible. If you'd like to contribute, please sign up on the sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

Thank you for helping us celebrate this meaningful and hope-filled day together.

Easter Egg Hunt:



The CUMC Easter Egg Hunt is returning, and the Education Committee is already busy preparing for a joyful time for our children. We are seeking donations of **individually wrapped candy** and **small fidgets or trinkets** to help fill the eggs.

If you'd like to contribute, a large donation box is located in the **narthex**. Please bring all donations by **March 29**.

Thank you for helping make this year's Easter celebration extra special for our kids. If you have children that would like to participate, please **plan to stay after Easter worship** for the big event!

Passion Play:



St. Luke's Catholic Church in Southington will once again present its renowned annual Passion Play, with performances on Saturday, March 28 at 6:30 p.m.; Sunday, March 29 at 3:00 p.m.; Tuesday, March 31 at 7:00 p.m.; and Wednesday, April 1 at 7:00 p.m.

Widely cherished throughout the region, this production offers a powerful and deeply moving spiritual experience. It's a highlight of the Lenten season for many, and all are invited to attend and witness this inspiring tradition.

CCC Events:



Here are two upcoming events being hosted by Cheshire Creation Care (CCC) which CUMC is a part of:

Event 1: Saturday April 11th, 10am-1pm Clothing Swap

The **Coalition for a Sustainable Cheshire** is collaborating with **Cheshire Public Library** to host our **Spring 2026 Clothing Swap**. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to fight the gears of fast fashion and consumerism by donating your gently used or never worn clothing and refresh your wardrobe by finding a completely free new outfit for spring and summer!

We hope you can join us at the Cheshire Public Library on **April 11th from 10am-1pm** to find a new outfit.

Clothing donations will be collected on Thursday, April 9th 5pm-8pm and Friday, April 10th 1pm-4pm

Event 2: Saturday, April 25th, 10am - 1pm, there is a Repair Cafe.

Where: Cheshire Public Library
When: Saturday April 25, 2026
Time: 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Why a Repair Café? Our aim ultimately is to keep items out of our already overflowing landfills. Why throw away when we can reuse, recycle and repair!

Here's "who" is in our Repair Café tool box so far:
Sewing (no zippers),
Bike repair
Tool sharpener
Computer troubleshooting
Knitting/crocheting

Joanna Miller heads up our event, and she would love to see even more fixers this year! If you have a skill, come on and help the effort!

A Message from the Finance Committee:



Looking for a way to extend your giving in 2026 and beyond? The tax code has changed, if you do not itemize your federal income tax deductions and instead use the standard deductions, you will be allowed to additionally deduct up to \$1000 (filing single) or \$2000 (married filing jointly) in charitable contributions. This is in addition to your standard deduction. Check with your tax advisor for this opportunity.

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 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.

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.

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.

We're on YouTube!:



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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