

THE WEEKLY COURIER

A weekly newsletter brought to you by Cheshire United Methodist Church

VOL. 9 ISSUE 13

MARCH 29, 2026

Coming soon to our Sanctuary:



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



Maundy Thursday Worship, 4/2, 7:00 p.m.



Blood Drive, 4/3, 12-5 p.m.



Check out our new YouTube channel — [link](#)



From Our Pastor:

A Talking Donkey and a Quiet Donkey

This season brings to mind two donkeys from Scripture.

In Book of Numbers 22, Balaam is set on his own path when his donkey suddenly stops. What seems like stubbornness is actually sight—the donkey sees an angel blocking the way. When Balaam refuses to notice, the donkey speaks, interrupting him just long enough to save him.

In Gospel of Matthew 21, another donkey appears. This one says nothing. It quietly carries Jesus into Jerusalem while the crowds shout and wave palms. No voice, no resistance—just steady, humble presence.

One donkey speaks to stop a dangerous path.
The other remains silent to carry a holy one.

Lent holds these together. Some moments in life interrupt us—uncomfortable, unexpected, even frustrating. Yet they may be grace asking us to pause and see differently. Other moments call for quiet faithfulness—simply carrying Christ through small, steady acts of love.

Along this Lenten road, both are needed:
the courage to listen when something speaks,
and the humility to carry Christ without needing to be seen.

This Sunday begins Holy Week. However you enter the story—whether through the one who speaks or the one who quietly carries—I invite you to walk this journey together. Along the way, something may begin to change within you. You may find yourself becoming more like Christ, walking the path to the cross and moving beyond it toward the hope of the empty tomb.

Keep going and stay with the journey—it is not finished yet. And neither is God's love, which continues without end.

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

Our Week at a Glance . . .



March 29	Worship, 10:00 a.m.
April 2	Maundy Thursday Worship, 7:00 p.m.
April 3	Blood Drive 12:00-5:00 p.m.
April 3	Good Friday Worship, 7:00 p.m. (Plainville UMC)

Our Church Family Celebrations



March 29	Hallie Lucht
April 2	Linda Pisani

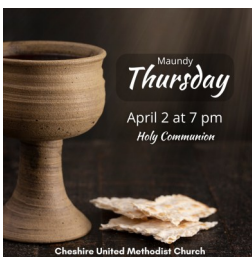
Palm Sunday Brunch following worship THIS WEEK:



Join us **THIS 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.

Thank you for helping us celebrate this meaningful and hope-filled day together and to the many who donated items to the cause.

Maundy Thursday:



We invite you to join us for our Maundy Thursday service this **Thursday, April 2, at 7:00 p.m.** here at Cheshire UMC. This meaningful Holy Week gathering invites us to remember Jesus’ last supper with his disciples, share in **Holy Communion**, and enter the quiet, sacred space of the night before the cross. All are welcome as we gather for prayer, scripture, and reflection.

Last Sunday for Easter Egg Hunt donations:



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**. **This week, 3/29, is the last Sunday to bring in donations.**

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!

Good Friday Worship:



The **Mid-State Cooperative Parish** will gather for a shared **Good Friday** service at Plainville UMC on **Friday, April 3 at 7:00 p.m.**

Plainville UMC is located at 55 Redstone Hill, Plainville.

This is a meaningful opportunity for our congregations to come together in prayer and reflection as we remember Christ's journey to the cross. All are encouraged to attend and share in this sacred time.

From the District Superintendent:

The Rocks Cry Out
A Palm Sunday Service of Esperanza
*A worship gathering in support of
our immigrant neighbors*



Asbury United Methodist Church
90 Church Ave., Forestville, CT
Sunday, March 29, 2026 at 3:00 p.m.
Sponsored by NYAC CT District

There will be a **NYAC CT District Palm Sunday worship service** on **Sunday, March 29 at 3:00 p.m.** at **Asbury Methodist Church**, located at **29 Church Ave., Forestville, CT.**

All are warmly invited to gather for this meaningful time of praise and preparation as we enter Holy Week together.

Upcoming Blood Drive:



CUMC is holding a **blood drive** on Friday April 3 from 12-5. If you are interested in volunteering to be a host/greeter during those hours, please call Sue Trumbo (203-456-0836). Blood donors are always needed. Appointments can be booked online at www.redcrossblood.org, or call Sue to make an appointment.

Message from the Mid-State Cooperative Parish:



INVITATION TO PRAYER FROM CT MID-STATE COOPERATIVE PARISH
from your co-lay leader, Sue T.

Amidst the tremendous amount of violence, unrest, and bad news in the Middle East, our own country, and elsewhere, your Cooperative Parish is organizing two times of prayer.

Please consider joining with us by praying (wherever you find yourself) on **Saturday March 28, and Saturday April 4, at 10 a.m.** Even 5 minutes of corporate prayer can be powerful and effective.

Press [here](#) for a link to the Journal of Peace and Non-Violence that Pastor Steve shared with us back in the Fall. You might find this helpful in your prayer time, or at some other time.

"Then you will call upon me and pray to me, and I will hear you." Jer 29:12 RSV

Easter Flower Orders:



This Sunday, 3/29, will be the last Sunday to place your **Easter Flower orders**. You can find the order form [here](#). Flowers will be available to take home after worship on Easter. For any further information, please see Dot Mattson.

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.

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.

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!

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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