

THE WEEKLY COURIER

A weekly newsletter brought to you by Cheshire United Methodist Church

VOL. 9 ISSUE 19

MAY 10, 2026

Coming soon to our Sanctuary:



Sunday Worship, 10:00am



Finance Committee, 5/12,
6:00 p.m.



Church Council, 5/12,
7:00 p.m.



Check out our YouTube
Channel-link on website



From Our Pastor:

Keep seeing, keep caring, and keep calling forth life

There are moments in life when distress, loneliness, and suffering seem to settle deep within us. Frustration weighs on the body, isolation clouds the mind, and exhaustion touches even the spirit. At times, it feels as though we are living through such a season together. Perhaps you feel it too.

When life narrows into weariness and uncertainty, what do we do? Where do we turn?

For me, the answer is prayer. Not prayer that simply accepts the world as it is, but prayer with the courage to call upon God anew. Prayer that dares to speak honestly from the wilderness.

I think of Hagar in the desert with her son, Ishmael. Cast out, thirsty, and surrounded by danger, she found herself in a place of deep suffering and abandonment. Yet in that wilderness, Hagar did something remarkable. She became the only person in the Hebrew Bible to give God a name: El Roi, “the God who sees me.”

Out of her distress, Hagar cried out not with empty words, but with fierce honesty and hope. She encountered a God who saw her pain, heard her voice, and remained present with her in the wilderness. Her story reminds us that God is attentive to the afflicted and present even in the harshest places—our personal wildernesses and the collective wilderness of a world marked by violence and division.

As Mother’s Day approaches, I find myself returning to Hagar’s courage. She refused to believe she was unseen. She spoke with boldness because she trusted that God was listening.

In many ways, motherhood carries that same kind of holy intensity—a deep and steady aim toward what is good, loving, true, and life-giving. A mother’s love often sees what others overlook, holds on through hardship, and continues to hope even in difficult seasons.

Perhaps that is part of the gift mothers offer the world: the reminder that to love is to keep seeing, keep caring, and keep calling forth life even in the wilderness.



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

Our Week at a Glance . . .



May	10	Worship, 10:00 a.m.
May	12	Finance Committee, 6:00 p.m.
May	12	Church Council, 7:00 p.m.

Our Church Family Celebrations



10	Troy LaRusso
12	Patricia LaRusso
12	Olivea Kieffer
13	Henry Dynia

Finance Committee:



The **Finance Committee** will be meeting on Tuesday, 5/12, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Church Council:



Church Council will be meeting on Tuesday, 5/12, at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. You can find April's minutes [here](#).

Save the Date!:



Save the date for our **June 7th Church Picnic** following worship! We'll fire up the grill with hot dogs and hamburgers, keep the coolers stocked, and enjoy a time of fellowship and fun. If you'd like to bring a dessert or side, the sign-up sheet is waiting for you in the Fellowship Hall.

From the office:



A **new large wall calendar** is now hanging in the church office just behind the desk. As you plan meetings, appointments, special services, fellowship gatherings, or any time the building will be in use, please stop by and add them to the calendar. Keeping everything in one shared place helps us stay organized and support one another's ministries. If you're unable to add to it yourself, just let the office know! In this particular instance, oversharing is encouraged.



Tech Tip:



Do you have a **dreadfully slow cell phone** when you're at the church? That's your phone trying to connect to, or use, a WiFi network or hotspot. Try turning off your WiFi (Internet) connection under "Settings" on your phone. That will force your phone to use cell service instead, which these days is almost always significantly faster than the church's notoriously slow WiFi connection. Close your phone's browser or whatever app you're using and try again. And, yes, this tip can apply to other public places where your phone is sluggish but you have cell service.

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.



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!



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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