

THE WEEKLY COURIER

A weekly newsletter brought to you by Cheshire United Methodist Church

VOL. 9 ISSUE 20

MAY 17, 2026

Coming soon to our Sanctuary:



Sunday Worship, 10:00am



The Bookettes, 5/19
7:00 p.m.



Check out our YouTube
Channel-link on website



From Our Pastor:

The Ascension of the Lord can feel like a strange and tender moment in the church calendar. Jesus rises from the disciples' sight, and they are left standing there, eyes fixed on the sky, wondering what comes next. It feels like loss. Like goodbye. Like the closing of a chapter they were not ready to end.

But the Ascension is not an ending. It is a beginning.

In Acts 1, the disciples search for certainty about the future. Instead of giving them clear answers, Jesus gives them a calling: "You will be my witnesses." Then he ascends—not to abandon the world, but to place the work of love into their hands.

That moment feels close to home today. We also stand looking upward for reassurance while the world around us wrestles with division, grief, violence, and exhaustion. Yet Ascension reminds us that faith is not remaining still beneath the clouds. Faith is finding the courage to move forward, trusting that Christ is still present among us.

And before Jesus ascends, he blesses them.

Not abandonment, but blessing.
Not absence, but invitation.

The story of Christ did not end with the Ascension. It became the Church's turn to carry hope, mercy, and love into the world.

Perhaps that is why Miracle Sunday matters so deeply. This coming Sunday, United Methodists around the world will join together in sacrificial giving to support theological education for future pastors across Africa, Europe, and the Philippines. Through this offering, hundreds of students each year are prepared for ministry, leadership, and service.

It is one small but powerful way we continue the movement that began at the Ascension: Christ entrusting ordinary people with the work of extraordinary love.



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 19 Bookettes, 7:00 p.m.

Our Church Family Celebrations

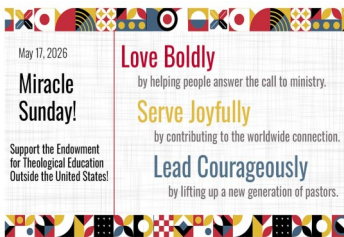


16 Sharon Coyner
20 Jennifer Frederick
23 Audrey (Driscoll) Banegas



18 Joe & Cindy Attanasio
20 Bill & Marge Jordan

More on Miracle Sunday:



To learn more about Miracle Sunday and what it is about, please visit: <https://www.endowftecc.org/>

If you are moved to donate directly to this movement, please visit: <https://www.endowftecc.org/donate>

Two Additional Miracle Sunday videos:

1) One from Bishop: <https://bit.ly/49PObpN>

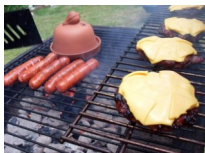
2) One from Caleb, a pastor from Liberia who ministers to people who live in a grave yard: <https://vimeo.com/1139482432/4c92767f13>

The Bookettes:



The Bookettes will be meeting on Tuesday, May 19th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Faithful Thomas Room.

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.

Free Piano:








Looking for a piano or know someone who is? A **Yamaha console piano**, lovingly cared for by its sole owner (Carolyn Kelly), is available **free to a good home**. It's in excellent condition and ready to bless a new household. Please see Carolyn Kelly for more details.

Promise Kids Update:



Promise Kids families are invited to join Vacation Bible School hosted by our Cooperative Parish partner church, Grace UMC in Southington! We hope many of our Promise Kids can participate together for a week of faith, fun, music, games, and community.

-  June 28–July 2
-  5:15–7:45 PM
-  Dinner provided
-  \$30 per child
-  Registration open through June 22

We would love for our children to attend together as a Promise Kids group, so please consider registering soon!

For questions, please contact:
 Grace UMC – Amey DiVito:
 Promise Kids – Rose Kim:

Lectors Needed:



Have you ever thought about being a lector? We're filling the lector schedule through the end of the year, and we'd love to include you. The role is simple—just reading Scripture in front of your church family. You'll find the schedule attached [here](#) and another posted outside the sanctuary. Please write your name next to a date that works for you, or reach out to the office if you'd like help signing up.

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.

We're on YouTube!:



We have a 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.

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!

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.



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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