

# THE WEEKLY COURIER

A weekly newsletter brought to you by Cheshire United Methodist Church

VOL. 8 ISSUE 25

7-13-2025

## Coming soon to our sanctuary . . .



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



Shelter Now — Missions at work! Page 2



Booklettes meet on Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.



Coming soon . . . Something New

From Our Pastor



### Dear Beloved Community of Cheshire,

Lately, Rose and I have been spending our days surrounded by moving boxes—sorting, unpacking, and rediscovering where everything belongs: kitchen, bedroom, pantry, basement, and more. It's been equal parts organized and surprising. What's been most fun, though, are the boxes with no labels—the mystery boxes. At some point, we must have forgotten to write down what was in-

side, and now opening them feels like an unexpected gift.

It reminds me of the line from *Forrest Gump*: “Life is like a box of chocolates—you never know what you’re going to get.” And while pastoral transitions in the Methodist Church come with some structure and familiarity, I still find myself experiencing not surprise, but awe.

Getting to know the Cheshire UMC community feels a lot like opening one of those mystery boxes—full of delight, depth, and unexpected beauty. Even though I have my preferences (like dark chocolate!), the richness comes in discovering all the different flavors, personalities, and stories that make up this beloved congregation.

Who would’ve thought that an unmarked box—or a new pastoral appointment—could be such a gift?

With joy and anticipation,  
**Rev. Dr. Steve Kim**

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## Our Week at a Glance . . .



July 12 Shelter Now  
13 Worship  
15 Booklettes, 7:00 p.m.

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## Our Church Family Celebrations



13 Rachel Driscoll Raffone  
14 Sebastian Little  
15 Leo Davis  
15 Tracy Hanke  
15 Will Trumbo



10 Barbara & Michael Foster

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## Shelter Now — July 12



Shelter Now in Meriden: making breakfast for the men, women, & children staying at the shelter. Currently looking for volunteers for August 9, September 13 and October 11. The time commitment is about from 8:30-10:00 a.m. Contact Jennifer Roeder for more info or to sign up. Cell: 203-444-4067;

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## Booklettes — July 15



Booklettes Women's Book Club will meet on July 15 in The Faithful Thomas Room. The book for July is *Tell Me Everything* by Elizabeth Strout. For the schedule for our 2025 books, see [here](#).

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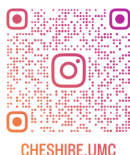
## Something New — July 22



Something New meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 11:00 AM, in Fellowship Hall. This is a time for anyone to meet together in a casual coffee/tea time atmosphere for fellowship and fun conversation.

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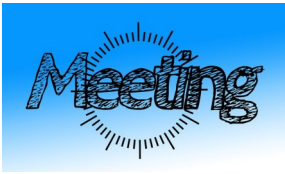
## Follow us on Insta



Scan this QR code to follow Cheshire UMC on Instagram. Thanks to Trish Jenings for leading our Instagram account.

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## Church Council — July 29



Church Council meets next on Tuesday, July 29 in Fellowship Hall, 7:00 p.m. This will be our first meeting with Steve. All are welcome to be a part of this meeting. Minutes for the June meeting are [here](#).

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### From Your Editor:

Every Family has stories. . . In keeping with Steve's unpacking story, I thought I'd share one story from the McSwain trove for your reading pleasure. As we enter summer where we typically don't have quite as much for the Courier, I'd love for others to share. Just send to

office@cheshireumc.com.

#### Moving

As I finished first grade in Jackson, TN, my family (mom, dad, Hal, Ken, dog (Josh) and I) moved to Atlanta, Ga. for my dad to begin work on his PhD at Emory. My uncle (a minister) and his family were also moving from one small town to another at the same time.

Since this move was on "our" dime, we were using U-Haul. My dad had gotten the largest trailer they had and had students from the local college (where I later attended), help load. Well, they got the trailer completely filled. . .but there was at least half that amount of furniture still out on the front lawn of our parsonage. Mind you, the new family for that parsonage was moving in that afternoon! We needed to get out of there.

The trailer was unloaded, taken back to the rental facility and a truck was rented. Once the truck was loaded, we were ready to go!

The plan was to stop to say a final goodbye to my aunt/uncle and family before heading towards Atlanta, via Huntsville, AL, where we would stop to see friends, have dinner and spend the night, finishing the trip to our new house the following day.

One detail I neglected to include is that my dad had been having back spasms for a couple of days, and the doctor had given him muscle relaxers for relief. (This for a man who never even took an aspirin!)

My mom, Ken, Josh and I took off in the car with dad and Hal following in the truck. We got to the little country church where we were meeting my aunt, uncle and cousins, began playing, and waiting for Hal and Dad. And, waiting. . .and waiting. They finally arrived and dad rolled down the window of the truck saying, "I almost didn't make it." Mom said, "What?" and he repeated, "I almost didn't make it."

Hal told us he had swerved off the road, almost hitting a traffic sign. Hal yelled, "Dad!" and they decided to pull over to rest. He gave Hal his watch and told him to wake him at whatever time. As that time arrived, a highway patrolman stopped, recognized Dad and said, "What's going on, Mac? I'm getting reports of a U-Haul truck swerving all over the road." Dad explained the situation and the trooper told him he did the right thing by stopping. You can deduce that the muscle relaxers affected more than his back!!

It was quickly decided that we would go to my aunt's house for some rest time. My uncle and mom went over to the truck and mom said gently, "Harold, move over, Lefty is going to drive now." Nothing.

Again, she tried, "Harold, why don't you move over and let Lefty drive to his house." Nothing. Then Lefty shouted, "Move over, Mac," and over he went.

When we got back to my aunt's house, Dad staggered his way in the door. The lady helping my aunt pack for their move, looked up and started giggling at him. And, this is the line my cousin, DeAnne, and I always remember dad saying, mainly because it was so out of character, "Don't you laugh at me, I hit you!" At that point he went in one of the bedrooms, fell onto the bed and slept off the meds.

Around midnight he woke ready to go. We all got back in our vehicles and headed towards Huntsville, arriving there not for dinner, but for a late night/early morning snack before going to bed.

The next morning was uneventful as we headed for Atlanta and what the next three years might bring.



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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