

THE WEEKLY COURIER

A weekly newsletter brought to you by Cheshire United Methodist Church

VOL. 9 ISSUE 31

AUGUST 2, 2026

Coming soon to our Sanctuary:



Sunday Worship, 10:00am



Pickleball Meet-up,
8/2, 4:00 p.m.



Trustees, 8/4,
7:00 p.m.



Shelter Now, 8/8
8:30 a.m.



Check out our YouTube
Channel-link on website

From Our Pastor:



Last week, I wrote about letting the sand settle.

When the water is stirred, the sand becomes cloudy. We cannot see clearly until the movement slows and the grains gently return to their place. Sometimes our lives are like that. We long for immediate clarity, but wisdom often comes only after we allow ourselves to be still.

This week, I found myself looking at the shoreline again.

As each wave rolled in and quietly slipped away, it left behind something unexpected. The water had carved delicate ripples across the sand—patterns no human hand could have designed. Every wave erased something, but every wave also created something. What first appeared to be disturbance became beauty.

Perhaps that is one of God's quiet ways of working.

We often resist the waves in our lives—the disappointments, the unexpected changes, the conversations that challenge us, the seasons that reshape us. Yet God is not only present in the moments when everything settles. God is also at work in the movement itself. Like the tide shaping the shore, God's grace patiently forms us, one wave at a time.

No single wave creates the masterpiece. It is the steady rhythm of countless waves that transforms an ordinary stretch of sand into something beautiful.

The same is true for the Church.

Every act of kindness, every prayer, every word of encouragement, every shared meal, every difficult conversation held with grace leaves its own gentle mark. Alone they may seem small, but together they shape a community where Christ's love becomes visible.

As we continue through this season, may we trust both the settling and the shaping. May we not fear the waves that come our way, for in God's hands they may become the very means by which beauty is formed.

After all, the shoreline is never finished. Neither are we. And that is good news, because God's creative work continues with every new tide.



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

Our Week at a Glance . . .



August	02	Worship, 10:00 a.m.
August	02	Pickleball Meet-up, 4:00 p.m.
August	04	Trustees, 7:00 p.m.
August	08	Shelter Now, 8:30 a.m.

Our Church Family Celebrations



4 Carol Hotz
4 Gregg Moffatt-Helming
4 Chris Mazzone
6 Vanda O'Reilly
8 Cindy Russo



1 David and Elaine Wilkinson
5 Sergio and Dawn Deganis

Pickleball Meet-up:



There will be a **Pickleball Meet-up** on Sunday August 2nd at 4:00 p.m. at Cheshire Park. See Tiffany Russo for more info!

Trustees:



Trustees will be meeting on Tuesday, August 4th at 7:00 p.m. in the Faithful Thomas Room.

Serving at Shelter Now:



Shelter Now in Meriden: making breakfast for the men, women, & children staying at the shelter. The time commitment is from 8:30-10:00 a.m. We will next be serving on August 8th. Contact Jennifer Roeder for more info or to sign up. Cell: 203-444-4067; Email: jlynnroeder@aol.com.

Back to School Collection:



CUMC will be collecting school supplies for children at Fair haven School and Conte West Hills in New Haven now through Aug 16th. Please consider making a donation- see list for most needed items. Leave your items in the collection bin in the narthex. If you would prefer to make a monetary contribution, you can put cash or a check (made out to CUMC with note "Back to School" in the offering plate. Cash (or checks made out to CUMC w/notation of Back to School) donations should be in no later than Sun, Aug 9th, so we can shop before school starts. For more details please see Jennifer Roeder.

Needed Items (**most asked for):

**Good Quality #2 Pencils

**Paper- Loose Leaf, Composition Books, Spiral Notebooks

Also:

Binders/Folders

Backpacks

Markers/Crayons

Staples has deals on school supplies including:

Spiral notebooks- \$0.35; Composition notebooks- \$0.50; Folders- \$0.25; 8-Packs of Staples pencils- \$0.65

Thank you note:



My dear church family,

The members of this congregation are so caring and generous with their calls, visits, cards, food, and prayers. I wish to thank each and every one. I still have a ways to go, but with the good people of this church and God's help, we will do it together.

Love, Dot Mattson

Pick-up Choir Opportunity:



Mara will be leading a **pick-up choir** singing, "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" this Sunday, August 2nd. All are welcome to join. There will be a brief run-through at 9:40 a.m. before worship. Come and lift your voice!

Clothesline Fundraiser Update:



Our **Clothesline Fundraiser** is running now through Labor Day. We have already raised **\$4,182!!** Wow, what a start! How it works: Choose any of the **150 numbered envelopes** (plus children's decorated envelopes). The number is the **minimum donation** placed inside. Please provide your name so we can give you credit for your donations. Pastor Steve will share weekly updates as we work to "clear the line!" Filling every envelope would raise **\$11,325** for our church! What a blessing that would be.

Promise Kids Update:



Last Sunday, our Promise Kids explored the final Big Question of the month: "**What is the Church?**" We learned that the Church is not a building—it is God's people. Together, we are the Church, called to love, serve, and share God's hope with the world.

As summer continues, many of us will travel, try new activities, and meet new people. Wherever you go, remember that you are part of God's Church. Let's continue to care for others, share God's love through acts of kindness, and be a positive influence wherever God leads us.

We look forward to seeing your family this Sunday as we continue to grow together in God's love!

Supporting Bryan as he leaves for Canada:



As many of you know, our friend **Bryan Sijabat** from Indonesia, has been working locally as a greenhouse worker for the last few months. He has chosen to worship with us during his time here, and you have welcomed him warmly. He recently interviewed to stay in the program and his current boss drove him to Canada yesterday to connect with an affiliated greenhouse business. With Steve's blessing, I am **collecting contributions** from anyone who would like to **help Bryan out** as he relocates. (We did the same for Wadzie when she left for Canada). This is totally voluntary. If possible, please have your contributions to me by Sunday. Once he is established there, I will wire the donation to him. Thank you. - Carolyn Kelly

Altar Flowers - Special Announcement:



Our dear friends at Plumb Farms have decided to retire. We have loved their creative approach to beautifying our worship space. As we find a new vendor, the **Worship Committee** is asking that once people have enjoyed the flowers they contributed, **please return the vase for reuse.**

CUMC Summer Sports:



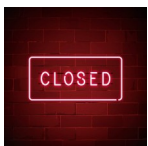
Tiffany Russo is spearheading some summer fun for us! If you're interested in playing **co-ed pickleball or softball**, this info is for you! **Pickleball** meet ups will be held 8/2, 8/16, and 8/30. A **Softball** meet up will be held on 8/9. All meet ups will be at 4:00 p.m. at Cheshire Park for pickleball and 4:00 p.m. at Bartlem Park for softball. Please let us know if you'll attend the softball game, so we know if we have enough participants. Invite a friend! **All skill levels are invited, kids, too!** Let's have some fun and friendly competition. Please see **Tiffany** for more information!

PowerPoint Help Needed URGENTLY!



Dear Congregation— It takes 'many hands to make light THE work'...as you all know. This church currently has 3 people who **embellish the PowerPoints** to supplement our worship. 2 of the 3 will be unavailable for much of the summer, leaving only one person able to create them. If you can utilize this fun application called PowerPoint, **please reach out to Pastor Steve, Rhonda or Mara NOW.** The current PowerPoint personnel are more than willing to work with you as you learn.

Church Office Closed on Fridays:



For the summertime, the church office will be **closed on Fridays**. This means that for July and August, Fri-mail will be "Thurs-mail." We will return to Fri-mail in September! If you have an announcement to include in the *Courier*, please be sure it reaches the office by **Wednesday**. Thank you for helping us stay organized during these summer months!



Please keep in mind that Fridays are the Pastor's Sabbath. The office will also be closed on Fridays throughout the summer. Unless it's a pastoral emergency, please leave a message at 203-272-4626 or email office@cheshireumc.com, and it will be addressed on Monday. Thank you!



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