

# THE WEEKLY COURIER

A weekly newsletter brought to you by Cheshire United Methodist Church

VOL. 8 ISSUE 28

8-3-2025

Coming soon to our sanctuary . . .



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



See page 3 for needs at the Food Pantry



Trustees meet August 19, 7:00 p.m.



See page 2 for school supplies being collected by our Missions Comm.

From Our Pastor



**Dear Beloved Community of Cheshire,**

I still remember the first time I played musical chairs. I was so captivated by the music that I forgot the main goal—finding a seat before the music stopped. As the game went on, chairs were removed one by one, and the pressure to find a place grew.

At our recent Church Council meeting, I introduced three empty chairs to help us think more deeply about how we make decisions as a church. One chair stood for someone outside our congregation. Another represented someone within Cheshire UMC whose voice may not yet have been heard. And the third was what I called the “Jesus chair”—a sacred reminder to ask: *If Jesus were seated among us, what would He say? What truth would He speak? What grace would He offer?*

These weren’t just empty seats. They were visual cues—meant to slow us down, open our hearts, and help us listen more carefully to those who are often overlooked. They call us to imagine: *Who is missing from the conversation? Whose voice do we need to hear? And what might Jesus be thinking in this very moment?*

Now, maybe I’ve done to you what the music once did to me—I’ve drawn your attention to something so vivid that you’ve forgotten we’re not playing musical chairs at all. But if it made you pause and think—about others, about Jesus—then maybe that’s exactly the point.

Should you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you!

## Our Week at a Glance . . .

August 3 Worship



## Our Church Family Celebrations



- 1 Caroline Veleber
- 1 Dominic Trentacosta
- 4 Carol Hotz
- 4 Gregg Moffatt-Helming
- 4 Chris Mazzone
- 6 Vanda O'Reilly
- 7 Carl Strand
- 8 Cindy Russo
- 9 Carl Helming



5 Sergio and Dawn Deganis

## School Supplies Collection—Missions at Work!



Back to School Collection: CUMC will be collecting school supplies for children at Fair haven School and Conte West Hills in New Haven from July 27th- Aug 17th. 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 donations should be in no later than Sun, Aug 10th, so we can shop before school starts.

Needed Items (\*\*most asked for):

\*\*Good Quality #2 Pencils

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

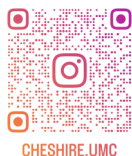
Also:

Binders/Folders

Backpacks

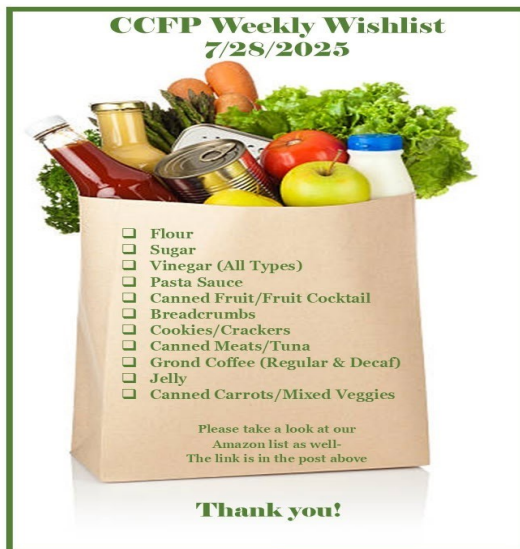
Markers/Crayons

## Join us on Instagram



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

Below is a Wishlist from Cheshire Community Food Pantry of particular needs/wants. We will be collecting items this Sunday and appreciate all donations.




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## Booklettes — August 18



Booklettes Women's Book Club will meet on August 18 in The Faithful Thomas Room. The book for August is *Woman with the Cure* by Lynn Cullen. Dawn Deganis will be hosting. For the schedule for our 2025 books, see [here](#).

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## Church Council — August 18



Church Council meets next on Tuesday, August 18 in Fellowship Hall, 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to be a part of this meeting. Minutes for the June meeting are [here](#).



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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