

THE WEEKLY COURIER

A weekly newsletter brought to you by Cheshire United Methodist Church

VOL. 9 ISSUE 32

AUGUST 9, 2026

Coming soon to our Sanctuary:



Sunday Worship, 10:00am



Finance Committee,
8/11, 6:00 p.m.



Church Council,
8/11, 7:00 p.m.



Check out our YouTube
Channel-link on website



From Our Pastor:

My children love building with LEGO, and if I am honest, I still do too. Whenever I see them playing, I often find an excuse to sit down and join them.

One of the frustrating parts of LEGO is watching a carefully built set fall apart. Yet my children rarely seem bothered. They simply use the pieces to create something new. That is part of LEGO's beauty: it invites imagination, creativity, and openness.

The other day, however, I decided to rebuild one of the broken sets exactly as the instructions showed. I soon discovered that several pieces were missing. One small missing piece could stop the entire process.

Searching through piles of LEGO required patience. Eventually, I found a piece that fit, but it was the wrong color. It worked, but it stood out. Even after finishing the set, my eyes kept returning to that one mismatched piece.

It made me think about life.

Sometimes we become stuck on past decisions that do not seem to fit. Sometimes we rush to find a substitute because waiting is difficult. Sometimes we complete something meaningful but cannot appreciate it because it is not perfect.

Patience asks us to remain steady. Perfectionism tells us that one flaw ruins everything.

That mismatched LEGO piece is still there. But instead of looking at it with frustration, I am learning to accept it. Perhaps one day the right piece will be found. Until then, the set still stands.

Maybe that is true for us as well. Our lives do not need to be perfect to be meaningful, useful, or loved.

God is still building, rebuilding, and restoring us—one piece at a time.



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

Our Week at a Glance . . .



August	09	Worship, 10:00 a.m.
August	11	Finance Committee, 6:00 p.m.
August	11	Church Council, 7:00 p.m.

Our Church Family Celebrations



9 Carl Helming
 10 Kristan Reagan McLean
 10 Sue Trumbo
 11 Tiffany Stevenson
 14 Avelina Howard
 14 Juanita Champagne



11 Fabio and Christina Dioses

NO SOFTBALL GAME SUNDAY:



The church-wide softball game scheduled for Sunday, 8/9, will be postponed until further notice.

Finance Committee:



The **Finance Committee** will be meeting on Tuesday, August 11th, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Church Council:



Church Council will be meeting on Tuesday, August 11th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. You can find last meeting's notes [here](#).

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

Clothesline Fundraiser Update:



Our **Clothesline Fundraiser** is running now through Labor Day. We have already raised **\$4,539!!** 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:



August is a month of **learning, trying new things, and growing together!** During our Promise Kids gatherings, the children have been learning to play handbells, sing, and work together to create beautiful harmonies.

This Sunday, our Promise Kids are excited to share what they have been learning by presenting a handbell piece and a song for a special anthem. We hope you'll be there to encourage them!

Even with many families traveling throughout the summer, our Promise Kids attendance has been amazing. Thank you for making worship and faith formation a priority. Your commitment and support make a tremendous difference in the lives of our children.

Whether you're at home or traveling this summer, may you continue to notice God's goodness in every adventure, every new experience, and every beautiful summer day. Let's give thanks to God for His many blessings and carry His love wherever we go.

Church Website Update Request:



ALL COMMITTEES HEADS: Please write a BRIEF description of your purpose & send to Rhonda at eamused@gmail.com. It would also be great if you could send a list of members.

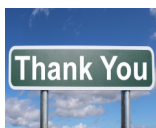
This is for the updated website that I am feverishly working on. I can't do it without your help. If you got to it this month, why, I would just JUMP for joy! I will find pictures that match your description's function.

Upcoming Fellowship Committee Meeting:



There will be a Fellowship Committee Meeting on Sunday, August 16th, following worship in the Faithful Thomas Room. Please see Jim Jackson or Dee Popolizio for more information.

Thank you!:



As you all know, we have been collecting money to help Bryan Sijabat with his move to Canada. Due to your generosity, we were able to send him \$600! Here is a note from Bryan:

My trip to Canada went well, and I'm settling in nicely, though I miss everyone at Cheshire UMC. Please pass along my gratitude to the congregation. Thank you all for your prayers and generosity. It truly means a lot to me.

Regards, Bryan Sijabat

CUMC Summer Sports:



Tiffany Russo is spearheading some summer fun for us! If you're interested in playing **co-ed pickleball**, this info is for you! **Pickleball** meet ups will be held 8/16, and 8/30. All meet ups will be at 4:00 p.m. at Cheshire Park. 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!



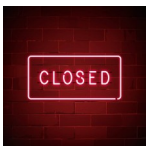
Dear Congregation— It takes 'many hands to make light THE work'...as you all know. This church currently has 3 people who **embellish the PowerPoints** to supplement our worship. 2 of the 3 will be unavailable for much of the summer, leaving only one person able to create them. If you can utilize this 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.

Lector sign-ups:



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. Also, please note that dates that have been filled are marked with a "X."

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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