

THE WEEKLY COURIER

A weekly newsletter brought to you by Cheshire United Methodist Church

VOL. 8 ISSUE 43

11-16-2025

Coming soon to our sanctuary . . .



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



Booklettes is Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.



Check out page 3 for several Missions opportunities



Blood Drive, November 20, 12:30-5:30 p.m.

From Our Pastor



Kenosis names the way Jesus lived. The word comes from Greek and means “to empty,” and it shows how Jesus chose to use power. He did not cling to status or privilege. He did not lead by force. He let go of what could have set him above others and lived with an open hand and an open heart. In that way, he revealed God’s life in human form.

As we approach Consecration Sunday, we step into that same spirit of release. It invites us to turn away from the constant message that we never have enough and instead trust the generosity of God. I am reminded of the scene where Jesus feeds five thousand people with five loaves and two fish. Jesus invites the disciples into his way of giving. “You give them something to eat.” They bring what little they have. Then a child offers his entire meal. Jesus blesses it, breaks it, and shares it. His act of giving becomes an invitation for the whole crowd.

I can imagine the moment when that child offered everything he carried. Something shifted in the crowd. People begin to open their bags. “I can share this.” “I have something to offer.” As they release what they were holding onto, the community discovered more than enough for everyone. This is what happens when someone or a whole community chooses the downward path so another can rise. It reflects the way Christ lived and creates space where God’s abundance can begin to grow.

If a child’s small gift can help bring life to someone else, why would we doubt that our own gifts can do the same?

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

Our Week at a Glance . . .



November 16 Worship 10:00 a.m.
 18 Booklettes, 7:00 p.m.
 19 Bells practice, 6:30 p.m.
 Choir practice, 7:30 p.m.
 20 Blood Drive, 12:30-5:30 p.m.

Our Church Family Celebrations



17 Joseph Ondriezek
 17 Drew Spalding
 21 Lexi Ferraiolo
 22 Dee Popolizio
 22 Erin DeVilbiss



17 Steven & Lisa Davis

Booklettes — November 18



Booklettes Women's Book Club will meet on October 21 in The Faithful Thomas Room. The book for November is *The Diamond Eye* by Kate Quinn. Our December meeting will be at the home of Mara Weed on December 11. All women of the church are invited.

Blood Drive — November 20



CUMC is hosting a Blood Drive on Thursday Nov 20 from 12:30-5:30. Sue Trumbo is looking for volunteers to generally help out, but mostly to greet donors. Homeade refreshments are always welcome and appreciated. Please let Sue know if you are interested.

We are always looking for donors. You can book an appointment online, or contact Sue if you'd like her to make an appointment for you.

Thank you!

Children's Bells continue this Sunday



GOOD NEWS!

Our Sunday School children will be playing bells next Sunday during worship. We look forward to this new ministry led by Rose Kim. You don't want to miss it!!

From our Technology Committee:



Good news! In order to improve reliability of our livestream ministry, we will be installing an equipment upgrade on Tuesday, 11/25. Beginning the first Sunday of Advent, 11/30, our services will be livestreamed on our new YouTube channel (link will be on our website), which will make it easier for anyone to find us. At 3:30 p.m. on the 25th, there will be a hands-on demonstration in the sanctuary with ZERO tech talk. Please join us!

Missions Opportunities:



Operation Christmas Child: Samaritan's Purse sends gift-filled Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes to children in need around the world together with the message of Jesus Christ. There are boxes available in the narthex, if you would like to be a part of this ministry. Before taking a box, please make sure that you know all the details of how to fill the boxes & what not to include. **Boxes need to be returned by Sun, Nov 23rd with \$10 for shipping** (attach envelope with cash to outside of box).

Go to: <http://www.samaritanspurse.org> for more info, including how to track your box to see where it ends up.

Its a busy time of year with school in session, the days getting shorter, and the holidays quickly approaching. The Cheshire Food Pantry is currently collecting winter coats for children and food items for Thanksgiving dinners for our Cheshire neighbors. CUMC has committed to assisting the Pantry with the following. Please consider making a contribution. If you would rather give a monetary donation, please see Jennifer Roeder or one of the missions volunteers after church in the narthex.

Children's Coat Collection: We have information for 18 children of different ages and genders who have requested a NEW winter coat. If you would like to provide a coat, **we have 2 coats left**. You can get a slip (with size/style) at church this Sunday OR email Jennifer Roeder at jjlynnroeder@aol.com. **Coats need to be back at CUMC no later than November 16th.**

Missions Opportunity: Kindness Works

The CT MidState Cooperative Parish has scheduled two dates at the Kind Works Studio located at 32 Stony Hill Rd in Bethel, CT. Volunteers will work on a variety of art activities and projects- making & painting beads and/or Kindness Coins.

Tues 12/9 10am - noon

Sat 12/13 - 11am - 1pm

Sign up with the link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0F48AEA72CA1FF2-60488520-2025>

While volunteer opportunities are free to the public, a \$5 donation per person is suggested to help support kindness education and studio programming.

Kind Works is approximately 45 mins from CUMC- carpooling is an option.

Childcare Ministry



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. Remember, “many hands make light work.”

Church Council — December 16



Church Council meet Tuesday, October 14 at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. All are invited to attend and see how decision making is done at Cheshire UMC. Minutes from the November meeting are [here](#).

Sign up for Flowers and/or Fellowship Time



Sign-up sheets for altar **flowers** and **coffee hour hosts** are up for the remainder of 2025. Ask someone to host fellowship time with you! Flower orders are \$65.



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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