

THE WEEKLY COURIER

A weekly newsletter brought to you by Cheshire United Methodist Church

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Coming soon to our sanctuary . . .



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



You don't want to miss the children playing bells during worship this week!



Check out page 3 for several Missions opportunities

From Our Pastor



Friendsgiving

The first time I heard a Christmas carol on the radio this week, it caught me off guard. Then it dawned on me. We are only a week away from Thanksgiving and a week away from Advent.

This stretch of the year holds a lot for many of us. There is real joy in it, and there can also be deep ache as we remember those we've lost. This season nudges us to look around and ask who our family is, who our neighbors are, and who our friends are.

Lately I've been thinking about what I've been preaching about friendship. I was at the church giving blood the other day. Our own members were there, greeting people, helping the Red Cross team, and rolling up their sleeves. In that moment, I saw our church not only making friends, but offering ourselves as friends to those who will receive those pints.

That is why Friendsgiving is on my mind this year. Moving into a new place means learning new rhythms and building new connections. Instead of focusing on finding friends, I've found myself praying about how to *be* a friend. I know not everyone needs one more person in their circle, but that isn't the point. I want to be ready to show up for those who feel overlooked or left behind. My challenge, maybe ours as well, is to live out what we talk about. One small step at a time.

My own little Friendsgiving began last Wednesday when I found myself on the court coaching with another volunteer. Yes, I'm coaching third-grade basketball. And yes, it's brand new for me. Baby steps, right?

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

Our Week at a Glance . . .



November 22 Apple Pie Making!
 23 Worship 10:00 a.m.
 25 Something New 11:00 a.m.
 27 Thanksgiving — Office will be closed

Our Church Family Celebrations



25 Julianne Deganis Valerio
 25 Diane Dynia
 25 Ken Erickson (Driscoll)
 26 Karen Bunting
 26 Vinnie Trentacosta
 27 Delphine Dortenzio
 29 Ruth Veleber



27 Mara & Peter Weed

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:



CUMC has a new YouTube channel! Beginning with the first Sunday of Advent, 11/30, our services will be livestreamed on our new YouTube channel (link will be on our website). We will be installing an equipment upgrade this coming Tuesday, 11/25, with a demo and training for laypersons at 3:30 p.m. on the same day. We have uploaded some recent worship services to our YouTube channel, so feel free to take a peek by searching Cheshire United Methodist Church on

Thank You!

Dear CUMC,

Thank you so much for the Halloween treat box. It was a nice surprise and of course, me and my roommates loved the candy. Thank you for thinking of me all the way up here in Maine!

Love, Grace Hanke



Hi,

I wanted to say thank you for sending the Halloween candy, I always look forward to getting it very year! I appreciate you all thinking of me and taking the time to send it to my school. I hope everyone is well and I miss you all!

♥ Once again thank you so much,

Leah Ferraiolo

Missions Opportunities:



BOXES ARE DUE THIS SUNDAY. 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.

It's 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."

Booklettes — December 11 — Christmas Party



Booklettes Women's Book Club will celebrate Christmas on December 11 at the home of Mara Weed. All women of the church are invited. Please let Mara know that you will be attending. Desserts and beverages will be supplied. If you'd like to share an appetizer, that would be wonderful.

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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