

# THE WEEKLY COURIER

A weekly newsletter brought to you by Cheshire United Methodist Church

VOL. 7, ISSUE 10

3.17.2024

## Coming soon to our sanctuary . . .



Lenten Study: Max Lucado's "In the Foot-steps of the Savior". Continues Sunday.



Do you want to bake for the Bishop's Day on the District? See page 3.



IMPORTANT information about the March 24th Brunch. See Page 3.



Spring has Sprung! Time to clean the church and church grounds. Page 3.

## From Our Pastor



### An update from the Lost & Never Found dept.

My beloved church family,

It's been a while since I first informed you that I had lost my cross – a fine and treasured piece of jewelry that Karen once gave me and I once wore around my

neck.

Here's the update: it's still gone! The statute of limitations has expired. I've officially and permanently lost my cross. Sigh.

That's the bad news. The good news is that, this Lent, I've been more committed to finding my cross – not the one I once wore around my neck but the one Jesus once bore on his back for me.

Recognizing, however, that there is commitment, and then there is commitment, Bob Wendel, a Presbyterian Church leader, came up with the following "Cross Scale of Commitment", which goes from the most serious commitment to the least:

10. Go to the cross and rise in three days.
9. Go to the cross and rise in two days.
8. Go to the cross and rise in one day.
7. Watch someone else go to the cross.
6. Visit Golgotha on vacation.
5. Wear a cross at work.
4. Wear a cross to church.
3. Buy a cross for a friend.
2. Look at crosses in the Cokesbury Catalog.
1. Write with a Cross Pen.

The question I ask you today is the same one I'll ask in my sermon (titled "Cross Straining") on Sunday - what is YOUR commitment to the cross?

## This Week at a Glance . . .



3/17 Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.  
 Sunday School meets  
 ~ nursery available  
 Children's Choir meets after Worship  
 Lenten Supper Study Series 5:00 PM  
 3/19 Booklettes 7:00 PM  
 3/22 Pastor's Sabbath

## Happy Happy!

### Birthdays this week:



17 Sergio Deganis  
 18 Mark DeVilbiss  
 19 Len Mecca  
 20 Sean Gilleylen

## Happy Anniversary

22 Mark & Hui-chen DeVilbiss

## Children's Choir Rehearsals



All children wanting to sing during our Palm Sunday Worship Service are asked to meet after Worship Service on Sunday, for our final rehearsal.

## Lenten Supper Series Continues Sunday



On this the fifth anniversary of our trip to the Holy Land, Pastor Ken is leading a 6-part video Bible study, "In the Footsteps of the Savior", presented by NY Times bestselling author and renowned pastor, Max Lucado. On 6 successive Sundays, we'll be "visiting" Capernaum (Jesus' HQ), the Sea of Galilee, the Mount of Beatitudes, the Temple Steps, the Garden Tomb, and Caesarea by the Sea - all without leaving the Fellowship Hall! Our Lenten journey continues at 5:00 p.m. Sunday and will have its final meeting next week. (from 5:00-6:30 p.m.)

"This year, Jerusalem!"

## Booklettes — March 19



Booklettes Women's Book Club will meet on March 19 at 7:00 pm in the Faithful Thomas Room to discuss Hello Beautiful by Ann Napolitano. All welcome! Please see [here](#) for the book choices for the year so you can get ahead on your reading.

## Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday, March 24, 10 a.m.  
 Maundy Thursday, March 28, 7:00 p.m.  
 Good Friday, March 29, 7:00 p.m.  
 Easter Sunday, March 31, 10:00 a.m.

All services will be livestreamed to our website EXCEPT for the Tenebrae service

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## After Service Brunch — March 24



The Menu consists of the following:

Scrambled eggs, Waffles, Pancakes, Crepes, French Toast Casserole, Corned Beef Hash, Bacon, Sausage (if that's not enough choices, you don't need it!)

Those who are donating items for the Brunch, please bring them to the church by March 17th (this Sunday) and leave in the kitchen.

FINALLY. . .please sign on the list in the narthex so we know for how many to plan. And, the Final FINALLY. . .bring your appetite!!!

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## Bishop's Day on the District, March 25



The Cooperative Parish Council has asked each church to contribute to dessert for the Bishop's Day on the District to be held at First UMC Meriden on March 25. Sue Trumbo is looking for a few volunteers willing to provide 2-3 dozen pieces (cookies, brownies, cupcakes, etc) for this event. Items should be brought to church on March 24. If interested please contact Sue at 203-314-4643 (text or call), or by email at [suegbode@gmail.com](mailto:suegbode@gmail.com).

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## Church Council — April 9



Church Council meets the second Tuesday evening of each month at 7:00 PM. All are welcome to attend. The minutes of our March meeting can be found [here](#).

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## Spring Clean-Up — April 20



Calling all able bodies and not so able bodies to help. There is a job for all! The spring clean up will be held on April 20 from 8-12. Many hands make light work. Any time you can help during these hours will be appreciated by the trustees and your church.

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## Cheshire UMC Keepsake



This Cheshire UMC Keepsake is available to all. The price is \$10 and you can get from Mara Weed. If writing a check, please note that it is for the Keepsake. This is a wonderful remembrance for present and past members

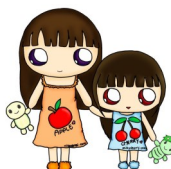
### 3rd Annual Repair Café with CCC (Cheshire Creation Care)



Parks and Rec Building, April 6<sup>th</sup> from 11 am - 2 pm.

The overall goal of the Repair Café is to keep broken household items out of landfills and to highlight the talents of local residents and, in some cases, businesses who provide repairs or services that improve the functioning or appearance of everyday household belongings.

### Secret Sister Signup



Secret Sisters is an opportunity to pray for, think of and let another woman know that she is special. Shower her with notes, cards, and surprises- in your own unique way- throughout the year and on her special days, without letting her know it's you.

A new year of Secret Sisters will begin in March. Complete the form found [here](#) and place in the SECRET SISTER box at the Welcome Center in the church narthex through Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. The Secret Sister assignment will take place immediately following, and you will be notified of your Secret Sister via email/snail mail if you don't have an email.

### Altar Flowers and Fellowship Hour Sign-ups for 2024



New sign-up sheets for altar flowers and coffee hour hosts are up and waiting for you!

### Cheshire Food Pantry Collection



On the first Sunday of the month, please bring non-perishable donations to church for donation to the Cheshire Community Pantry.

### New Appointment for Pastor Brian

Woodbury (CT) United Methodist Church has faced a recent crisis in the arrest of its pastor for illegal drug possession, now removed and his ordination credentials surrendered.

To respond to this crisis, Bishop Bickerton has asked the Rev. Dr. Brian Bodt to serve the church as pastor on a 1/2 time basis, effective March 14. The appointment will officially continue through June 30 but possibly beyond.

Brian and his wife, Carol Galloway, have worshipped with us when they are not at other churches, most recently serving Holy Communion with Pastor Ken on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. They will stay connected to, and continue to support, Cheshire UMC as they are able in the coming months.

### More news on Altar Flowers



Effective May, 2024 flower orders will be \$65. The beauty that fresh flowers adds to the worship experience is undeniable. This is the only increase we have had in over five years. Thank you for your contribution to worship at Cheshire UMC.

## Nursery Volunteers needed



We are always looking for more volunteers for this important ministry, so if you'd like to help, please contact Barb Heafy, our nursery coordinator. Thank you!

## From our Pot Pie Expert



A big thank you is in order to all the people that made donations and worked a long day. It was a pleasure having Jim's wife, Ann and Phelan's mother, Pat, they were a real asset to our group.

We made and sold 118 pot pies giving us a profit of 1,266.00 dollars.

Thank you one and all. Dot

## Bible Give-away — April 7



Late last fall, we were blessed with a memorial gift to refresh one of our Education / Bible Study Rooms. The new Faithful Thomas Room is now complete with a fresh coat of paint, a new conference table and chairs, and a wall-mount TV!

As part of our 'refresh', we culled through several decades of older or duplicate Study Bibles and Reference Guides.

After church services on Sunday, April 7th, we will display the displaced resource materials and allow CUMC Members an opportunity to 'adopt' them, at no charge, for your personal home library.

As a bonus, each of these items comes with a special blessing by Pastor Ken certain to enhance your spiritual journey!

## Pastor's Sabbath



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.

Cheshire United Methodist Church

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