

# THE WEEKLY COURIER

A weekly newsletter brought to you by Cheshire United Methodist Church

VOL. 7, ISSUE 11

3.24.2024

## Coming soon to our sanctuary . . .



Final Lenten Study:  
Max Lucado's "In the  
Footsteps of the Sav-  
ior".



Creative Auction???  
Reverse Auction???  
You've got ?, we've got  
answers. Page 4



Want a unique Keep-  
sake for an Easter  
Basket? This is the only  
Cheshire UMC one!!



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

## From Our Pastor



My beloved church family,

It's such an important week here at church, that I want to dedicate this space to making sure you're in the loop on everything that's going on from now till Easter.

Just a reminder, all services/events will be held at the Cheshire UMC.

Palm Sunday, March 24, at 10 a.m., we will have our traditional Palm Sunday service that kicks off with the children's Parade of Palms. They'll also be singing a little later in the service. Following worship, you're invited to a special after-worship brunch, with all the fixin's. I hope you'll join us.

Maundy Thursday, March 28, at 7 p.m., I'll be leading the Tenebrae ("*shadows*") service. It's a beautiful service with communion being served and a dramatic reading of the Passion Play being offered. (This is the only Holy Week service that will **not** be livestreamed, due to the lack of light)

Good Friday, March 29, at 7 p.m., we will be joined by the clergy and choirs of the MidState Cooperative Parish for the "Funeral for Jesus". I'm honored to preside over the liturgy and deliver Jesus' eulogy. On display in the sanctuary, will be a brand-new wooden casket that Creighton has constructed for this occasion.

Easter Sunday, March 31, at 10 a.m., we will offer our traditional and triumphant service of resurrection in our lily-laden sanctuary. In addition to all the usual amazing and inspiring music, we will be joined by a couple of trumpets (what's Easter without a trumpet or two?). Immediately following the service, our church family will gather on the front lawn for our annual Easter picture, and the children will participate in an Easter Egg hunt. It'd be a good idea to invite your friends, neighbors, countrymen. Ladies, don't forget that it's BYOB (bring your own bonnet)!

## This Week at a Glance . . .



3/24 Sunday Worship: 10 AM  
 Sunday School meets  
 ~ nursery available  
 Lenten Supper Study Series 5:00 PM  
 3/26 Trustees 7:00 PM  
 3/29 Pastor's Sabbath

## Happy Happy!

### Birthdays this week:



24 Levi Heuser  
 26 Shannon Cameron  
 26 Andy DeBoer  
 27 Nathan Trumbo  
 27 Dot Mattson  
 29 Hallie Lucht

## From our wonderful Administrative Assistant



Dear Cheshire UMC,  
 Thank you so much for the lovely altar flowers and fellowship hour last week. And thank you for the gift cards to my favorite restaurants! I can't wait to use them.  
 I was really touched to read the many sentiments you all wrote.  
 This is such a special church!

Blessings to you,  
 Tracy Hanke

## Booklettes — April 23 (Fourth Tuesday)



Booklettes Women's Book Club will meet on April 23 at 7:00 pm in the Faithful Thomas Room to discuss *The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue* by V. E. Schwab. 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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## Bishop's Day on the District, March 25



If you notified Sue you are willing to bake for the Bishop's Day on the District, please bring your contribution to church on Sunday, March 24.

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## Church Council — April 9



Meeting

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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## Shelter Now — April 13



Shelter Now in Meriden: making breakfast for the men, women, & children staying at the shelter. Please contact Jennifer Roeder at 203-444-4067 or [jlynnroeder@aol.com](mailto:jlynnroeder@aol.com).

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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.

### Creative Auction/Reverse Auction — May 19



Following worship on May 19th, we will host a Family FUNraising event. Both a Creative Auction and a Reverse Auction will be held! See the attached flyer [HERE](#) to learn more and find how you can contribute and/or buy.

### 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.

### Another Thank You!



Hello my Church family,  
I want to thank you all so much for all the cards and well wishes that I have received. My entire house was filled with cards and it warms my heart to the love and dedication that our church has for its family members. The recovery process has been extremely hard for me and your thoughts and prayers have meant so much to me, so thank you all so very much and I hope to see you very soon.

Kim Ferraiolo

### 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



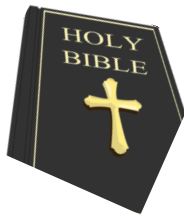
We are always looking for more volunteers for this important ministry, so if you'd like to help, please contact Barb Heafy, our nursery coordinator. Thank you!

## Making a Joyful Noise — one Wednesday at a time!



"Small Groups" are a big thing in churches. Our church has them in Lenten Studies, The Chosen Groups, Book Club, Something New, Confirmation Class, Shelter Now Group, Secret Sister and CHOIR, among others. Each group becomes a family within our larger church family. Come join our family as we sing, but, we don't JUST sing. . .we laugh, cry, rejoice, pray. All, as J. S. Bach said, Soli Deo Gloria—"To God alone, the glory".

## 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.

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