



The Chimes

Digital
Edition

Chester United Methodist Church * 12132 Percival Street * Chester, VA 23831 * 804.748.6006 * www.chesterumc.org

February 2012



RAISING MONEY FOR OUR CHURCH YEAR ROUND

CUMC has enrolled in the Kroger Cares Fundraising Program. Our church will receive 5% cash back on all Kroger grocery, Fuel Center and prescription purchases made with a CUMC issued Kroger Gift Card. How Does This Work?

- Purchase a \$5 Kroger Gift Card from the Church Office during the week or through the representatives listed below.
- Prior to paying for Kroger purchases, load the Kroger Gift Card at the service desk or cash register with the amount you expect to spend. Amounts can be loaded up to \$500 and any balances remain on the card for your next trip.
- Recharge and reuse the Kroger Gift Card each time you purchase groceries, gas and pharmacy items.
- Continue to use your Kroger Plus card, along with the CUMC Kroger Gift Card, to receive special prices, gas discounts and fuel points.

The money raised will be used for two projects: 1) to fund the air conditioning system for the multi-purpose room (217) above the Music Suite; 2) to focus on the Lost Boys of Sudan with needed education funds and to help build a school in the Sudan. Questions? Contact: Dennis Knaack at knaackd-p@comcast.net; Stacey Ferrer at ssfva@comcast.net; or Will Schmidt at willschmidt@verizon.net.

KROGER CARES AND OUR MISSION INVOLVEMENT

One half of the monies received from the *Kroger Cares Fundraising Program* will go to a special mission project of helping our Sudanese friends. THE LOST BOYS OF SUDAN has been a mission emphasis of Chester UMC for several years. We are still helping with educational scholarships. Presently, we are supporting James Garang with his college tuition. Also, we want to provide funds for educational projects in Sudan. Angelo Maker, a recent O.D.U. graduate we supported and aided, is seeking help to build a school in his home village of Rumbek. Angelo will be coming to Chester on Sunday, March 4, to share with us more about this project. Please be aware of this important undertaking and especially be in prayer for the children of Sudan.

Ed Garrett and Amy Dodd, Mission Co-chairs

2012 CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY

It's time to get out your cameras and start taking candid photos for submission to the next CUMC photo directory. Right now, we need activity pictures which involve various groups around the church. Pictures from 2011 activities are welcome, but current photos are encouraged. Your group will not be included unless someone submits a picture. The activity pages should be completed before the professional photographers even get started. Pictures must be high quality glossy prints, not those off of home printers (Wal-Mart photo prints are fine), and can be turned in to the church office. Digital formats can be sent to gchad32@verizon.net. Family photo sessions will not be scheduled until April 19-21 and May 10-12, but the other work needs to be prepared in advance. We still need volunteers to register in the pew pad to help with the design and editing processes.

FEBRUARY HAS FOUR FOOD FUNDRAISERS

Now, don't try to say that 3 times fast! We hope you will support the Super Bowl Chili Lunch on the 5th, the Valentine Meal on the 11th (both of these are carryout), the Half Time meal on the 15th, and the Pancake Supper on the 21st. All of these feed the fellowship of our church and support some very worthwhile causes. Thank you for your support.



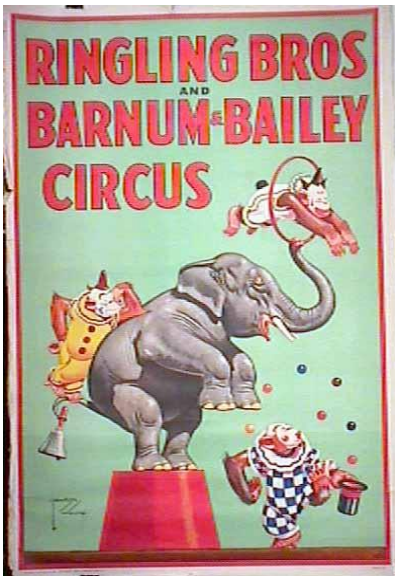
CHURCH LEADERS

Some of our staff and leaders will be traveling to Stafford County on February 23 for a one day conference on planting new churches. This will culminate the first series of the Five Talent Academy. Our staff and leaders have also considered evangelism, stewardship, worship, ministry with the poor, and faith development. These events have included churches from all over the Virginia Conference and have proven very beneficial in establishing goals and implementing plans.

In addition, Beth Downs, Director of Ministerial Services for the Virginia Conference, will be conducting a retreat for our Church Council on February 25. She will be sharing critical information on leadership systems in the large congregation.

Pastor Mary

BROADWATER GOES TO THE CIRCUS



One of the goals of our mission with the families of Broadwater this year is to help them see that there is a wide world of opportunity outside their community and to help them experience some things that many of us take for granted in our own families. We want to get this started in a big way—as in the BIG TOP – with a trip to the Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey Circus when it comes to Richmond on **Friday, February 17, at 7PM**. We have a commitment from the YMCA to provide transportation and Chester Christian is raising money to buy the children snacks. Would you consider sponsoring a child or adult to help cover the cost of the ticket? We are asking the Broadwater families to pay \$2 per ticket, and we need folks from CUMC to cover the remainder of the ticket cost with a **\$10 donation**. Please place your donation in an envelope (memo: Broadwater Circus) or write "Broadwater Circus" on the memo line of your check. We are also looking for people who could buy tickets for themselves and meet us there to act as a chaperone. Questions? Please see Amy Dodd, Jenni Deckert, Rebecca Hodell, or Amy Gray (amygray@verizon.net).

ROOF AND HVAC UPDATE

To date, church members have generously given \$33,600.00 toward the church roof repairs and \$3610.00 toward the Room 217 HVAC needs. The Trustees Committee spent \$20,990.00 to replace the damaged sanctuary roof during the summer. Our original estimate for roof repairs, obtained by our previous facilities coordinator, included the sanctuary and the education wing. Jimmy Willingham was hired as our Facilities Manager after the roof damage had been assessed and estimates obtained. Jimmy has done extensive review of our church property and he has found much more work that needs to be done in other areas. The Trustees Committee took a step back to reassess our priorities so that we could provide a comprehensive plan to repair all damage to the church which would include the portico, gutters & downspouts, education wing, etc. The Trustees approved the list of work to be completed, and Jimmy Willingham will be moving forward with this work using the money that has been donated by church members towards the roof and then other funds as approved by the Finance Committee.

PIZZA WITH THE PASTOR

Sunday, February 19

12:15 PM in Davis Fellowship Hall

Come enjoy a light lunch while your family and Pastor Marg become better acquainted. Please notify the church office (748-6006 / cumcsecretary@chesterumc.org) or register in the pew pad if you plan to attend.



SUPER BOWL CHILI

The United Methodist Women will be selling Super Bowl Chili by the quart to take home on Sunday, February 5, for \$7.00 per quart. Place your orders by marking the attendance pad during worship or by calling Susan Petrey at 275-9258.

SWEETHEART SPAGHETTI DINNER

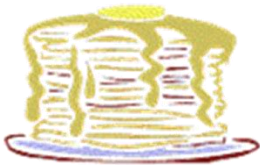
The Francis Allen Fellowship is selling a delicious dinner for two for those of you who would like to surprise your Valentine, or perhaps brighten the day for a shut-in or someone who is unable to prepare their own dinner. This delicious dinner for two includes: spaghetti with your choice of meat or veggie sauce and white or wheat noodles; fresh baked garlic bread; and iced chocolate brownies. To order your dinner(s) for two, please sign up in the Atrium or in the pew pads. You may also order dinners by contacting Carla at 706-1638 or Janis at jlhrh@comcast.net. (Be sure to specify the type of sauce and noodles desired.) The last day to place dinner orders is **Wednesday, February 8**. Your meals To GO will be ready for **pick-up on Sunday, February 12**, after the 11:00 worship service. Francis Allen thanks you for your support.



HALF TIME

DINNER AND PROGRAM

Please save the date for our next HalfTime dinner/program which is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 15, at 6:15 PM**. The Chancel Choir will be hosting the dinner and allforONE will provide the entertainment. There will also be an activity for children (ages 3-5). The cost of the meal will be \$5 for adults and \$3 for children, with a \$20 family maximum. Please preregister in the pew pad or contact Terry at cumcsecretary@chesterumc.org to attend the meal or to help with the children's activity.



SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER

Sponsored by the Care Committee

February 21; 6:30-8:30PM

Davis Fellowship Hall

Proceeds received from the dinner will be to help pay for the Parish Nurse Training Course. Kate Wiltsie, the Parish Nurse applicant, will introduce herself and explain her future role as our CUMC Parish Nurse. There will also be a brief Ash Wednesday Service. Childcare will be available during the program for children 4 and under. Please preregister in Pew Attendance Pads if you plan on attending.

If you are or have been a medical professional, we would love to have you involved in the meal preparation and serving. Please contact: Darlene Emerson at 530-2517 or agentches@aol.com.

MUSIC NOTES

Have you ever thought about joining the Chancel Choir? Now is the time! We're gearing up for our next Easter cantata entitled, "Never Walk Alone", featuring guest soloist Allison Durham Speer from Nashville. Rehearsals begin with a kickoff workshop on Saturday, February 4, at 9:00 AM in the Music Suite. Then we'll dedicate the second half of our weekly rehearsals on Thursdays to fine tuning this great music. Singers of all skill levels are welcome and encouraged to join us! "Never Walk Alone" will be performed on **Saturday, March 31 and Sunday, April 1.**



And if that isn't enough to fill your musical cravings...Chester Community Chorus begins rehearsing on Tuesday, February 7, as we prepare a program of Broadway hits of today and yesterday. Again, singers of all skill levels are welcome. This high energy concert will be presented on **Thursday, April 12**, as part of the Chester Village Green Community Associations Second Thursday event series. A second performance of this great music will be scheduled that same weekend. For more information, check out www.chesterchorus.org.

Lastly, it's not too late to get on board as a singer or a roadie for the Chancel Choir Tour scheduled for **July 26-31, 2012**. We will visit Greensboro, NC, Atlanta, GA (with stops at Stone Mountain and the Martin Luther King, Jr. national site), Cape Girardeau and St. Louis, MO and Lebanon, KY. For more info or to make your \$100 deposit, please contact me ASAP!

HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH

The High School Youth have had a wonderful start to the New Year! WE have enjoyed our weekly youth devotions and discussions. Middle School has enjoyed their time together as well. Fifteen high school youth will be attending the James River District Youth Blackstone Retreat on February 10-12. The Youth offer a huge, "Thank you!" to our wonderful church family members who made donations toward sponsorship.



At the end of February, both the middle and high school youth will be attending T.O.P. (Teens Opposing Poverty). The youth are asking for donations of scarves, hats, mittens, gloves, socks and Chapstick to take to Monroe Park. Please place your donations in the labeled bin in the Mission Closet and help our youth make a difference to those in need. This hands-on mission opportunity is a beautiful time of fellowship and sharing God's love.

If you are a middle or high school youth who has not yet attended one of our youth gatherings, we ask that you prayerfully consider visiting us! Both groups meet in the Youth Cottage. (MS: Sunday at 4 PM; HS: Wednesday at 6:30 PM).

Middle and High School will enjoy a day of snow tubing on March 4. A \$15 deposit is due. We have 60 spaces reserved so hurry up and reserve your tubing spot. We need adult drivers as well.

By the way, The Buyalos Family ROCKS! Youth are so grateful for the gravel donated and spread by the Buyalos crew. Check it out the next time you drive past the cottage.



Susan - msyouthdirector@chesterumc.org

Jenni - hsyouthdirector@chesterumc.org

CUMC NURSERY SCHOOL

CUMC Nursery School has been off to a busy start! Registration is currently underway for the 2012-2013 school year. Enrollment is for students between the ages of 2 ½ through 5 years old. A class for Junior Kindergarten is also being offered this fall. If you are interested in information, please contact Jenni Deckert (748-2275). The CUMC Nursery School will officially be changing its name to CUMC Preschool as of the summer of 2012.



2,853! That large number is the number of books read by our students and families during a two week time period when CUMCNS participated in D.E.A.R. (Drop Everything And Read). During this time, students and their families were asked to share and enjoy books together. Students returned their daily reading logs and the teachers tallied the number of books read per day. As a celebration for reading 2,853 books, students enjoyed a “Winter Wonderland of Reading” with our special guest reader: our very own Dr. Rev. Jim Davis, Director of Spiritual Formation.

Thank you to our church family members who have volunteered their time to read during library time and chapel lessons. Thank you CUMC for your continued prayers, love and support to our Nursery School.

FRESH START SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Join the Fresh Start Sunday School Class in Study, Fellowship and Service

With All Your Heart—continuing through February 19—biblical professor and archeologist, Rev. Ray Vander Laan, takes us on a journey through Sinai and Israel, a region that is still largely desert but at times filled with lush, bountiful places. Discover how Jesus called people to live in the Promised Land; what we can learn during times of abundance and in times of desert; and how God led his people back to the desert often to relearn the lessons they had forgotten.

Beginning February 26, the first Sunday of Lent—Final Words—in *24 Hours That Changed the World*, Adam Hamilton took us on a Lenten journey through the last day of Jesus' life. Now, in his inspiring follow-up book, Hamilton examines Christ's dying hours and his final words as seen and heard through the eyes and ears of those who stood near the cross. Moving through each chapter, we will begin to understand and respond to Jesus' final words at the cross while learning about those who were eye witnesses to the crucifixion.

The Fresh Start Class meets every Sunday morning at 9:45 in Room 207. Visitors and new members are always welcome. Call Susan Petrey, 275-9258, for more information



CUMC E-MAIL PRAYER CHAIN

Betsy Price is now managing our Prayer Chain. Please submit your prayer requests to her at prayerchain@chesterumc.org. *If you are asking for prayers for someone other than yourself, please be sure that you have that person's expressed permission to do so.* The Prayer Chain will continue to go out to our entire data base through February 6 as we create a mass e-mail distribution list. To continue receiving the Prayer Chain after the 6th, be sure to reply to one of the Prayer Chain e-mails with “YES”, send an e-mail to prayerchain@chesterumc.org, or register in the pew pad. After February 6, the Prayer Chain will only go out to those folks who have indicated that they wish to continue to receive the e-mails.

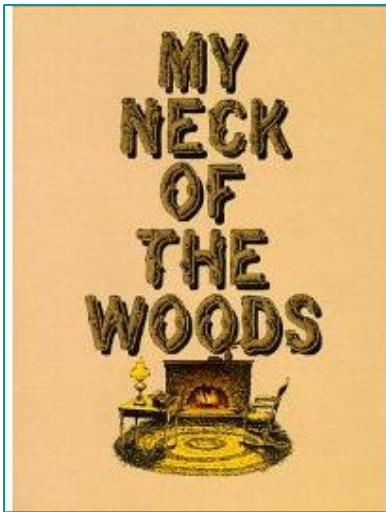


OFFERING ENVELOPES

Your 2012 Giving Envelopes are ready for pick-up in the Atrium. Please notify the Finance Office (finance@chesterumc.org / 748-6006) if you are unable to collect your envelopes and we will make other arrangements to get them to you.

Please register online at www.chesterumc.org if you would like to have the option of giving electronically.





FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF SPIRITUAL FORMATION

My personal Sacred Duties for the Lord, here, include: "...responsibility as the primary resource person and coordinator for the spiritual growth and Christian education and assimilations ministry with children, youth and adults. This staff person is not intended to "do" all the work; rather should be a facilitator and enabler to the laity of the church. This staff person will help to identify needs, offer leadership, supervise paid staff and act as a resource person and trainer as required in the areas of children, youth and adult discipleship and assimilation." "The Director of SPIRITUAL FORMATION will coordinate programs." I understand that my job description is not the same job description that Rita fulfilled so well. I am the staff contact person with the Spiritual Growth and Witness Teams. I seek your prayers in my behalf as I serve the Lord with you. Thank you, for such a warm welcome for Karen and me.

Thank you for honoring the Lord and the Home Group Hosts by signing up and participating like Methodists of old when they were calling such gatherings... "societies". I would like to invite the entire church family to pray that these Home Groups might "bear fruit in the Spirit" that they are capable of bearing. If you could not participate with a Home Group at this time please plan on it in the future. The Hole in Our Gospel book is available in the Atrium and your reading it might offer certain blessings. Gifting such a book might really be a treasure gift to a friend. More exciting groups are planned for the future. In today's culture, in America, these Home Groups are proving to be a great setting for personal spiritual growth and renewal in church after church across the land. Thank you for your participation and prayers.

Your presence at Sunday school, Home Groups, Worship, Youth, etc. is valued and recorded. Your presence and your signature in the Attendance Pads are very important to our being able to care for all of God's children, young and old alike, entrusted to our fellowship by the Lord. A whole team of volunteers records each person's attendance. For example, the Sunday school attendance (for any particular Sunday) is on my desk before the 11:00 A.M. service is over. Visitation teams stand by to serve where attendance records suggest a follow up care needs to be offered in Christ's name. Every attendance sheet is dealt with whether it indicates a visitor, a member, a prayer need, a joining of a Home Group, a visitation need, or an order for Super Bowl Chili.

Rev. Jim Davis

UNITED METHODIST MEN



The next UMM monthly meeting is **Wednesday, February 1, at 6:30 PM** in the Fellowship Hall. All men of the church (old or young, member or visitor) are welcome. Please help us with a head count by contacting Vann Stanfield (vannstan1@verizon.net) or the church office (cumcsecretary@chesterumc.org/748-6006). Reservations are preferred, although, there is always room for one more. Please come and enjoy the food, fellowship and fun!

Thank you for supporting the United Methodist Men and our Boston Butt Pork Roast fundraiser at the end of October. We survived the heavy rain and raised \$608.23! This money will go to support projects funded by the United Methodist Men around the church such as the roof fund, the storage shed next to the Youth Cottage, flooring in the Nursery and many others. Thanks again for supporting our ministry.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

- **Executive Committee meeting**--Wednesday, February 8, 7:00 p.m. in room 207. All unit officers and fellowship leaders are asked to mark your calendars and make plans to attend.
- **Frances Allen Fellowship**--will meet on Tuesday, February 14 at the home of Diane Higgins. All women of the church are welcome. Call Janis Hargrave, 526-4156, for details.
- **Ada Mae Bookman Fellowship**--will meet Thursday, February 9, 8:45AM, in the church parking lot to carpool together to The Hermitage to deliver cookies. Call Martha Miles, 748-5476, for details.
- **Jean Craig Fellowship**--will meet Monday, February 13, 7:00 PM in Room 116. Visitors and new members are always welcome. Call Susan Petrey, 275-9258, for details.
- **UMW Salad Luncheon**—All Women of the Church are invited to a luncheon meeting on Sunday, February 19, immediately following 11 o'clock worship. Learn about the **UMW Reading Program**, led by Carla Faris, and participate on our *Call to Prayer and Self-Denial*; an offering will be collected. The Allen Fellowship will host. Bring a salad or dessert to share.

Call Susan Petrey, 275-9258, to learn more about UMW, our three participating fellowships, and how you can become involved.



CHESTER COMMUNITY CHORUS HITS BROADWAY



Do you love to sing the music from West Side Story, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Oklahoma or the timeless classics written by Rogers and Hammerstein? Then you should join Chester Community Chorus for our next season! Rehearsals begin on Tuesday, February 7, as we prepare a program full of Broadway hits. This exciting concert will be performed on the lawn of the Chester Village Green on Thursday, April 12, as part of the Community Associations 2nd Thursday event series. Singers of all skill levels are encouraged to participate. For more information, please visit www.chesterchorus.org or call Joshua Wortham in the church office.



MARCH CHIMES DEADLINE

Wednesday, February 22; 12:00 Noon

RECYCLE USED INK CARTRIDGES

We participate in the Office Max recycling program which pays us \$3 per used ink cartridge (Lexmark, HP or Dell) which we can apply to future purchases. Please place your used cartridges in the labeled container in the Mission Closet and help us offset our church office expenses.

WITH APPRECIATION

Dear Church Family, We wish to thank you for your many acts of kindness at the time of Richard's death. The lovely cards with caring comments, the gifts to the church in his memory; and the wonderfully prepared and served luncheon were all meaningful expressions of caring. We are blessed as a church to have a very efficient, talented and caring group of women who give of their time to serve on the Bereavement Committee. We also want to thank Pastor Marg and Josh for providing a lovely memorial service. ~ *The Martinko Family*

Chester United Methodist Church Friends, On behalf of the Chesterfield Colonial Heights Christmas Mother Program, I want to thank all of you who continue to support our efforts to provide a happy Christmas for those in our community who are less fortunate. Thank you ~ *Martha Miles*

Chester United Methodist Church, Thanks for all your prayers, calls and visits to my mom, Lois Bushey. She is now in Hospice care at Colonial Heights Healthcare Center. We are so appreciative of all that you do for my mother. ~ *Dave & Pam Overton*

Dear CUMC Executive Board, Hello. I hope this finds you all healthy and happy. Due to many unfortunate events, the Chester Garden Club will not be able to orchestrate a flower, home and garden tour this year. We thank you again for your willingness and generosity to share your fellowship hall and kitchen with us, and we hope you will be open to the idea again in the future. Sincerely ~ *Kristi Higgins*

Dear Chester UMC Friends, Thank you for the cookie tin and visit at Christmas! It was so thoughtful and the cookies were delicious. Your visits during the year are also appreciated very much! (Krista Hutchins, a member of CUMC, is my granddaughter.) Sincerely ~ *Mary Hendrickson*, Lucy Corr, Room 507B

Chester UMC Sharing Tree, Thank you for making Sharon's Christmas very special. She loved her gifts. ~ *Dorothea Wharton*, Residential Counselor

Chester UMC Sharing Tree, A very special thank you for being so thoughtful! ~ Dawn

Chester UMC, Thank you for your prayers and the acts of kindness and love shown to our family during the sickness and celebration of life of our loved one. ~ *The Family of Paul J. Stewart, Sr.*



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY LISTS AVAILABLE IN THE ATRIUM

