

January 18, 2026

FRESH START

Are You Sure You're Up For This?



WELCOME

PRELUDE *Bachiana on an Ancient Choral*
Young

CALL TO WORSHIP

O God, you are our Creator and Redeemer.

You have called us, and we are here to listen.

You have sent us. We are ready and committed to give your message.

Teach us how to share your message, O God.

O God, send us where we should go.

O, Holy Spirit, open the hearts of those where you are sending us. Amen.

OPENING HYMN No. 568

Christ for the World We Sing

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, we are here today to obey your command to go and share your message. Give us wisdom and courage. Above all, empower us with your Holy Spirit for our labor. O God, open the spirits of those to whom you are sending us to give your message of redemption. Amen.

SIGNS OF PEACE AND UNITY IN CHRIST

PASSING OF THE FRIENDSHIP FOLDERS

MESSAGE FOR GROWING CHRISTIANS

SUNG RESPONSE No. 191, vs. 1 *Jesus Loves Me*

**Jesus loves me! This I know,
for the Bible tells me so.**

**Little ones to him belong;
they are weak, but he is strong.**

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

ANTHEM *Ev'ry Time I Feel the Sprit*
Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE Mark 8:27-38

MESSAGE *Are You Sure You're Up for This?*

BAPTISM

Chase Austin Chickadel

Introduction to the Service

Presentation of the Candidate

Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith

Congregational Reaffirmation and Commitment

For all of you here...

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ? **We do.**

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include Chase now before you in your care?

With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround Chase with a community of love and forgiveness, that he may grow in his service to others. We will pray for him, that he may be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life.

Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Thanksgiving Over the Water

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. Eternal Father: When nothing existed but chaos, you swept across the dark waters and brought forth light. In the days of Noah you saved those on the ark through water. After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow. When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt, you led them to freedom through the sea. Their children you brought through the Jordan to the land which you promised.

Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Tell of God's mercy each day.

In the fullness of time you sent Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb. He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit. He called his disciples to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection and to make disciples of all nations.

**Declare his works to the nations,
his glory among all the people.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit, to bless this gift of water and he who receives it, to wash away his sin and clothe him in righteousness throughout his life, that, dying and being raised with Christ, he may share in Christ's final victory.

All praise to you, Eternal Father, through your Son Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns for ever. Amen.

Baptism with Laying on of Hands

Baptism Song "God Claims You"

TFWS no. 2249, vs.1, 2

**"Chase, Chase," God claims you,
God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.
We this day do all agree
a child of God you'll always be.**

**"Chase, Chase," God claims you,
God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.
We your family love you so,
we vow to help your faith to grow.**

**"Chase, Chase," God claims you,
God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.**

TIME OF PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

You may give your offering by using the QR code on your screen, at umcwc.org, through the mail, by automated giving through Realm, or by dropping it off at our office. Thank you for your generosity.

OFFERTORY *Chorale on a Theme by Haydn*
Brahms

OFFERING RESPONSE No. 95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and holy Ghost. Amen.**

OFFERING PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN TFWS No. 2129

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

BENEDICTION

Go now, not certain of every step, but trusting the One who calls you by name. May Christ lead you into deeper faith, the Spirit give you courage to follow, and God's love shape the way you live and serve. Go into the world—renewed, ready, and sent. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE *Praise and Exultation*

Smith

Bold text indicates congregational response.

Today we welcome into our church family through baptism, Chase Austin Chickadel, son of Thomas and Jessica Chickadel.

Chase is dressed in special clothing today. The dress he is wearing was worn by Chase's great grandfather on January 15, 1928. It has been worn by every descendent of his and his sister's. Chase is wearing it 98 years later. He is the 19th child to be baptized in the dress. The bib that he is wearing is part of a tradition of a Catholic baptism. This represents purity, new life, and Christ's victory over death. The bib was made in 1985 by his paternal great grandmother. It was also worn by Chase's dad and his uncles during their baptisms. The white sweater Chase is wearing was hand-crocheted by Chase's paternal great grandmother in 1982.

Worship Participants

Message: Rev. Cyndi Stouffer

Liturgist: Rev. Allen Keller

Reader: Sharon Fredericksen

Message for Growing Christians: Tim Case

Chancel Choir Director: Jeannie Nelson

Organist: Steve Campitelli

Live Stream Team: Tim Case, CC Clark,

Brad Rush, Jacqueline Rush, Cory Smith

Education and Growth Opportunities

Sunday School for all ages is at 10:00 AM

Children's Sunday School (Rm 4-5)

Youth Sunday School (Youth Rm)

Adult Sunday School

Mustard Seed (Rm 12)

Seekers (Rm 7)

Upper Room (Chapel)

Women's Bible Study

Wednesdays at 9:30 AM

Men's Bible Study

Wednesdays at 7:30 AM

Youth Group

Sundays at 6:00 PM

PM

Pastor Jo Higgins Children's Library - Books for 1 year olds through teenagers. Located on the lower level.

Connection and Sharing Opportunities

Chancel Choir (Adults)

Thursdays at 6:30 PM

Children's Choir

Wednesdays at 6:30 PM

Praise Team

Wednesdays at 7:15 PM

Carillon Choir

Wednesdays at 7:30 PM

Sunshine Memory Café

Tuesdays at 1:00 PM

A welcoming place for persons with memory loss and their care partner.

Coffee With the Pastor

2nd Monday, 10 AM, at

Gamm's Diner Wednesday Night Out Dinner

Wednesdays at 5:45 PM

Retired Men's Lunch Group

2nd Wednesday at 11:30 AM

United Women in Faith

1st Tuesday at 6:30 PM,

Sept-May

Circles meet at various times throughout the month.

Web Dance

1st Sunday of each month, 6:00 pm,

Sept-May

High school hosted themed dance party for adults with intellectual disabilities

Opportunities for Growth, Fellowship, and Service

ACT Now (formerly Act In Faith) - Items for their Community Cupboard can be dropped off at the table in the Gathering Area. Donations of paper towels, toilet paper, dish soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste, shampoo, all purpose cleaner, and laundry detergent are needed, as these items are not available at other cupboards.

Unused hotel toiletries needed - Items go to Ronald McDonald House, Safe Harbor, and Salvation Army. Place items in the basket by the elevator in the Gathering Area.

Stephen Ministry - Stephen Ministry is a one-to-one confidential lay caring ministry for people who are going through a tough time. If you would like more information about how one of our trained Stephen Ministers can walk with you during this time, contact Kelly Lynn (Kelly@umcwc.org).

PRAYER NEEDS - The full list of prayer concerns can be found on the round table in the Gathering Area. Requests are also sent through our "Prayer Link". To receive the prayer link contact Luanne Sims (lsimsumcwc@gmail.com). To submit a prayer request, please sign the form in the friendship folder or contact Pastor Cyndi (pastorcyndi@umcwc.org).



**MONDAY,
JANUARY 19
9:00 AM**

Thank You!

WE MADE OUR GOAL!!!

Thank you to everyone who donated toward Rise Against Hunger. Because of your generosity we will be packing over 34,000 meals for those in need all over the world.

If you plan to help pack meals, **please sign up on the church website (UMCWC.org)**. Registration forms are also in the Gathering Area. Thank you for your support!

UPCOMING EVENTS AND NEWS

Soup Sale ! United Women in Faith are now taking orders for spinach tortellini soup (pick up date Feb. 8) and chicken vegetable and sausage with vegetables and beans (pick up date Feb. 22). Cost is \$10/quart. Order in the Gathering Area. Proceeds go to support the various outreach and mission projects of UWF.

Parking Tags - New parking tags for 2026 have been ordered and will be distributed as soon as we get them. Please continue to use the current tags until then.

West Chester Moms - Coffee and treats for moms, playtime for the littles! Come join us for a time of fellowship and fun on Saturday, January 24 @ 9am in the Fiesta Center. Invite your mom friends! Email Jeannie with questions (jeannie@umcwc.org)

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Today, January 18

8:45 AM - Worship (Sanctuary)

10:00 AM - Sunday School

11:00 AM - Worship Café (Fiesta Center)

6:00 PM - Sprouts (Rm. 4)

Monday, January 19 - Office Closed

9:00 AM - Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing Event (Fiesta Center)

6:30 PM - Lillian Circle (Chapel)

7:00 PM - Digital Disciple I (via Zoom)

7:00 PM - Narcotics Anonymous (Fiesta Center)

7:00 PM - Boy Scouts (Rm 4)

Tuesday, January 20

10:30 AM - Viewing and Funeral for Janet Burnett

6:30 PM - Church Council (Chapel)

Wednesday, January 21

7:30 AM - Men's Bible Study (Chapel)

9:30 AM - Women's Bible Study (Chapel)

5:45 PM - Wednesday Night Out Dinner

6:30 PM - Digital Disciple III (Chapel)

6:30 PM - Children's Choir (Rm 10)

7:30 PM - Carillon Choir (Rm 12)

Thursday, January 22

6:30 PM - Chancel Choir

Saturday, January 24

9:00 AM - West Chester Mom's Group (Fiesta Center)