

July 12, 2026



WELCOME

PRELUDE *We Shall Be Known* MaMuse
 Pike Family Trio

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let love be genuine—

We come seeking a love that is real.

Hold fast to what is good—

We come to be shaped by goodness.

Rejoice with those who rejoice—

We come ready to celebrate with one another.

Weep with those who weep—

We come willing to carry one another's burdens.

In a world that pulls us apart—

God calls us together.

In a life that can feel individual and isolated—

God forms us into community.

So come, bring your joy—

and bring your sorrow.

For in sharing both, we discover the fullness of life.

Let us worship the God who binds us together in love.

♦ OPENING HYMN NO. 539

O Spirit of the Living God

♦ OPENING PRAYER

Loving God, you do not call us to walk this life alone, but to live together—to love sincerely, to serve faithfully, and to share deeply. And yet, we confess, we often keep our distance. We hesitate to celebrate others fully. We struggle to enter into one another's pain. Draw us closer, O God. Teach us what it means to rejoice with those who rejoice and to weep with those who weep—not out of obligation, but out of love. Shape us into a community where joy is multiplied, burdens are shared, and your presence is made known in the way we care for one another. We offer ourselves to you— open our hearts and form us into your people. 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

For Simple Things American folk hymn
 Summer Choir

SCRIPTURE Romans 12:9–15

MESSAGE *Shared Joy*

PRAYER HYMN NO. 572 *Pass It On*

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

OFFERTORY 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 SONG

House of the Lord

Phil Wickham

**We worship the God who was.
We worship the God who is.
We worship the God who evermore will be.
He opened the prison doors.
He parted the raging sea.
My God, He holds the victory.**

**There's joy in the house of the Lord.
There's joy in the house of the Lord today.
And we won't be quiet,
we shout out Your praise.
There's joy in the house of the Lord.
Our God is surely in this place.
And we won't be quiet,
we shout out Your praise.
We shout out Your praise.**

**We sing to the God who heals.
We sing to the God who saves.
We sing to the God
who always makes a way.
'Cause He hung upon that Cross.
Then He rose up from that grave.
My God's still rolling stones away.**

**There's joy in the house of the Lord.
There's joy in the house of the Lord today.
And we won't be quiet,
we shout out Your praise.
There's joy in the house of the Lord.
Our God is surely in this place.
And we won't be quiet,
we shout out Your praise.
We shout out Your praise.**

**We were the beggars, now we're royalty.
We were the prisoners,
now we're running free.
We are forgiven, accepted,
redeemed by His grace.
Let the house of the Lord sing praise.
(repeat)**

**There's joy in the house of the Lord.
There's joy in the house of the Lord today.
And we won't be quiet,
we shout out Your praise.
There's joy in the house of the Lord.**

**Our God is surely in this place.
And we won't be quiet,
we shout out Your praise.**

**There's joy in the house of the Lord.
There's joy in the house of the Lord today.
And we won't be quiet,
we shout out Your praise.**

**There's joy in the house of the Lord.
Our God is surely in this place.
And we won't be quiet,
we shout out Your praise.
We shout out Your praise.**

♦ BENEDICTION

Go now, not alone, but as a people bound together in love. Rejoice with those who rejoice—let their joy become your joy. Weep with those who weep—let their burdens not be carried alone. And as you go, may your life be woven together with others in such a way that joy is shared, love is made visible, and Christ is known among you. Go in peace and go together. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Bold text indicates congregational response.

Worship Participants

Message: Rev. Cyndi Stouffer
Liturgist: Rev. Allen Keller
Reader: Matt Fenn
Message for Growing Christians: Tim Case
Summer Choir and Praise Team Director:
Jeannie Nelson
Organist: Steve Campitelli
Live Stream Team: Tim Case, CC Clark,
Brad Rush, Jacqueline Rush, Cory Smith

Education and Growth Opportunities

Regular Sunday School Classes resume in September.

Summer Opportunities

Children's Sunday Fun Day (Rm 6, lower level) 9:15 AM
Upper Room (Chapel) 11:00 AM

Women's Bible Study Wednesdays at 9:30 AM
(Resumes in September)

Men's Bible Study Wednesdays at 7:30 AM

Youth Group Contact Cory Smith (Cory@umcwc.org)
to get emails about summer events

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

Connection and Sharing Opportunities

All Choirs resume in September.

Chancel Choir (Adults) Thursdays at 6:30 PM

Men's Ensemble Once a month

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
(Resumes in September)

Wednesday Night Out Dinner Wednesdays at 5:45 PM
(Resumes in September)

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*

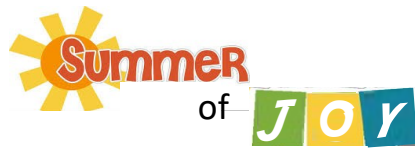
Ongoing Opportunities for Growth, Fellowship, and Service

Items for ACTnow - We are collecting the following items
that ACTnow is in need of for their community cupboard:
shampoo, conditioner, bar soap, deodorant, dish soap,
toothpaste, mouthwash, baby lotion/wash, all purpose
cleaner, laundry pods, toilet paper,
and paper towels. These are items that are not available
at other food cupboards. Items can be placed at the
table in the gathering area.

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

Pop Tabs - We are collecting pop tabs for Ronald McDonald
House. These tabs are recycled to generate funds for
local chapters, helping to pay for essential services and
operating costs for families staying there. Pop tabs can
be placed in the receptacle 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).



Join us for some
joyful opportunities
of fellowship
and fun over
the summer.

July 24 - Wilmington Blue Rocks Baseball Game -

The Chancel Choir will be singing The National Anthem.
Tickets for the game are \$16 and can be purchased at
bluerocks.com/group-portal. Log in using the group
passcode: UMCWC

September 13 - Church Picnic at West Goshen Park.

Worship in the park begins at 10 am followed by food
and fun. The church will provide hamburgers, hot dogs,
beverages, and paper products. Please bring side dish
or dessert according to your last name (A-K: side dish,
L-Z: Dessert) Sign up at umcwc.org or in the Gathering Area.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND NEWS

Stephen Ministry training class beginning this fall! This
distinctively Christian training includes a variety of topics
such as listening, assertiveness, maintaining boundaries in
caregiving, and grief, focusing on how to provide care
while God cures. Please contact Kelly@umcwc.org if you
are interested and would like to have more information!

Looking for a good book to read this summer? The United
Women in Faith Reading Group have chosen "The Lion
Women of Tehran" by Marjan Kamali. Pick up a copy and
then come to the Women's Back Porch Club at the home
of Sarah Cass on August 11 for discussion. Please contact
Sarah (610-436-7409 or email at cassarah2@verizon.net)
if you are planning to attend

Summer Choir begins Today. - No experience necessary.
The choir will practice at 9:00 am each Sunday before the
worship service. If you like to sing, join us.

**Salvation Army Dinner Teams and Sunday Night Safe
Harbor Meal Teams** are forming for September 2026 -
August 2027. We serve the first and fifth Saturdays of each
month at Salvation Army and the first Sunday at Safe
Harbor. Salvation Army teams require a commitment of
four meals per year and Safe Harbor three times a year.
Sign up at the round table in the Gathering Area. Contact
Karen Herr at jwherr@verizon.net if you have questions.

Men's Retreat-Save the date! October 2-3 at Gretna Glen.
Fun, fellowship, faith, and even a ropes course (if you
dare). Contact Ed Olsavicky (484-883-3025) for more
information.

Oct 24 - UWF Church Bazaar and bake sale - We are
looking for crafters to donate their creations for us to sell.
We are also looking for gently used or new household
items for our gift shop and "free" flea market; fashion
accessories (jewelry, purses, scarves); children's toys;
sporting goods; and games. No clothing, furniture,
electronics or books are wanted! Please contact Sue
Oliver, 610-745-3324 with any questions.

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).

****Like us on Facebook
(United Methodist Church of West Chester)
and on Instagram (@umcwestchester)**